

Monday August 17 1998

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# The Guardian

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12-page section

## Sport

### Owen rises to the occasion

Weekend results, reports and analysis, pages 13-24

Eve Boswell

### The sugar bush girl

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# The bomb hit right where it was placed: at Omagh's heart



A town's lost youth... Among the dead were, from left: Samantha McFarland, aged 17, her best friend Lorraine Wilson, 15, Adrian Gallagher, 21, and Brenda Logue, 17

The people of this small, polite market town have not witnessed the tornado of terrorism before. Now it has sliced through their lives, hitting them without discrimination, writes Jonathan Freedland



LIKE every place that has been bombed, Omagh looks like a town torn up by a tornado. Just like Enniskillen, Oklahoma or Nairobi before it, a whirlwind has ripped this place apart — peeling the roof off a building like the lid from a sardine can, scattering glass like rain, and cutting through human lives like the most vengeful of hurricanes. Like every bombed town, Omagh has fallen under a deadly hush. People move quietly, whispering their greetings. No one wants to smile or laugh. Adult men clasp their hands to their foreheads, their faces bowed so no one will see their eyes red from tears. Teenage girls gnaw their fingernails. Omagh was not a town yesterday: it was a funeral.

Like every place whose name has entered the unholiest canon of atrocity — Guildford, Warrington, Cookstown — Omagh has seen a procession of dignitaries come to mourn. A helicopter choppers overhead, then there they are, standing before a microphone. John Prescott, Gerry Adams, Mary McAleese, Tony Blair... The words are all so similar, so utterly useless really, that after a while they merge into a blur. It is not their fault; no one can say anything. Even the promise of a cross-border security summit, announced last night, sounds like King Canute's courtiers raging at the waves. In all this, Omagh is no different from any town visited by the tornado of terrorism. The pictures from here probably look the same as last

they had seen grow, whose genes they had seen at work. The inscriptions were not poetic, but spoke plainly. One bunch was laid for the slain baby. Another, of yellow carnations, was addressed directly to God: "This is such a waste. I have to ask why? Please comfort and have mercy on all [all your people] who go today." A third was "in memory of all who have died — Omagh will never recover from this horror."

Suddenly everything in this town looks different. Disaster has a grisly knack of making the previously innocuous seem ironic, or cruelly appropriate, and now Omagh has fallen victim to it. How many residents will now pause as they drive in from Belfast, realising that the first place they see as they come into town is a graveyard? How many will look again at the shop just around the corner from the blast which killed so many children, the shop called Nippers' Corner?

The people of Omagh are also pondering all the tiny, mundane decisions that now seem like fate. How come they were not there at that moment? A minibus full of football fans was heading into town but got stuck at traffic lights — delaying them by crucial, life-saving minutes. The leader of a Spanish school trip reckoned a visit to Omagh might make a nice

day out — never imagining how it would end. Sean Loughran could not sleep on Saturday night, constantly thinking about that bomb. He knows Omagh better than anyone, has lived there all his life and runs the Campsie Bar, just by Market Street. He heard the blast and ran right into the carnage. He was looking for his son, Paul, aged just nine.

"I couldn't believe it, I was standing in bodies," he said. A water main had burst and water was gushing everywhere, unleashing rivers of blood; not as metaphor, but as fact. "The bodies were floating past me, but you couldn't even tell that's what they were," he said, and his voice choked as if he could sob a river of tears.

He saw arms, legs and so much blood, but still no sign of Paul. He rushed to his home and — thank God Almighty — there was the lad, waiting for him, thinking the very same thing. "Da, I'm here!" the boy said, and as he hugged his son, Mr Loughran felt a relief sweeter than he had ever known.

But there was no sleep. At 5.00 yesterday morning he was wide awake, talking to himself — the first time he has ever done that. He cannot bring himself to go to the Omagh Leisure Centre, converted now into an incident centre where families buddle

around notice boards, waiting for word of the injured and the dead.

"I don't want to hear the names, because I know them all," he said.

Mr Loughran, aged 55, believed Omagh would never see such darkness. "I thought the bombing was all over, with the agreement and the approval of Sinn Féin and the Ulster Unionists, the Irish and British governments, and the people of north and south — and yet a bloody act of war has been committed."

Everyone has done all they can to bring peace, and yet more people died on Saturday than in any single act of the entire three decades of the Troubles. No wonder the politicians sounded numb and helpless yesterday: what more can they do?

For there is no logic to turn the Omagh bomb into a problem that can be solved. The Real IRA and the rest of the republican splinter groups seem happy to bomb their own people. Omagh is 70 per cent nationalist — to achieve an aim that next to none of those people want. Nationalist voters endorsed the Good Friday agreement by an estimated margin of nine to one.

Perhaps it was sheer failure to comprehend the bombers' motives that prompted the talk in Omagh yesterday of a cock-up: the hope that the

Real IRA, if it was there, had intended to warn people to get out of the way and had screwed it up, accidentally prompting the police to herd Saturday's carnival-goers right into the line of fire. Perhaps the idea that people might deliberately maximise the slaughter of innocents is too hard to bear.

Either way, Northern Ireland is now being tested again. The agreement, the referendum, the elections, were all tests of the people's determination to have peace — and the people voted Yes every time. Now they and their leaders are being tested again.

Will they all unite against the band of rejectionists who are bent on thwarting the march toward reconciliation? Or will they turn on each other? With Unionists blaming Gerry Adams for a bomb which was as surely an attack on his brand of republicanism as it was on the shoppers of Market Street.

But these questions are far from the minds of the townsfolk of Omagh. They are still looking for their dead. They are like the parents asked to identify a son by just a shoe and a set of dental records. The grandmother Mary Gimes, her daughter, Avril Monaghan, 30, who was pregnant with twins, and Mrs Monaghan's 19-month-old baby, Maura, all from Augher, County Tyrone.

### Omagh massacre



● Death toll from the Omagh bomb, Northern Ireland's worst single terrorist atrocity, is put at 28, with 220 injured.

● Fourteen women, five men and seven children, four of them girls, among the dead. Two victims yet to be identified.

● Tony Blair breaks off holiday in France and flies to Ulster. He pledges bombers will not be allowed to wreck the peace process. The bomb was a "blast of evil", says Blair. Last night he held emergency talks with the Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern in Belfast.

● Three generations of the same family, all female, killed by the blast. Identified as 65-year-old grandmother Mary Gimes, her daughter, Avril Monaghan, 30, who was pregnant with twins, and Mrs Monaghan's 19-month-old baby, Maura, all from Augher, County Tyrone.

● RUC Chief Constable Ronnie Flanagan announces special task force to investigate the bombing.

● Victims include three boys out on a last-minute shopping trip. They were last night named as Sean McLaughlin, 12, his neighbour, Oran Doherty, eight, and James Barker, 12, all from the seaside town of Buncrana. Two Spanish friends who had come with them were also killed.

● Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern vows to hunt down the republican splinter group blamed for the massacre.

● "Whatever resources are necessary to crush the organisation will be given," he pledges.

● Sinn Féin leader Gerry Adams repeats his "utter condemnation" of the bombing "without any equivocation whatsoever".

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## 'Real IRA' renegades blamed

Sinn Féin joins Blair and Ahern in condemnation of rebel group

Ewen MacAskill, Chief Political Correspondent

BRITISH government officials yesterday pointed the finger of blame for the 28 deaths in the Omagh bombing across the Irish border in Dundalk, home of the renegade Real IRA.

The Irish prime minister, Bertie Ahern, and Sinn Féin pointed to the group — formed by IRA dissidents unhappy with the peace process — as the culprits.

A caller claiming to represent the organisation phoned a Belfast newsroom claiming responsibility for the bomb minutes before it exploded on Saturday afternoon.

Mitchell McLaughlin, Sinn Féin chairman, said police on both sides of the border knew who was responsible.

Tony Blair, who met Mr Ahern in Belfast last night, made it clear that there was little Britain could do as the suspects were outside its jurisdiction. The onus was on the Irish government to act.

A British government source said: "No matter how much we are tempted, this is a democracy and we can't just send in the boys to sort it out." Security sources believe that the leader of the Real IRA is living in Dundalk.

Neither Mr Blair nor Mr Ahern favours the reintroduction of internment, which was a disaster when introduced by the British government in the 1970s. Although it has not been formally ruled out, police on both sides of the border are dubious about its effectiveness. A security force source said: "We do not want to create martyrs."

The RUC and Garda chiefs are to meet today to discuss tactics. The favoured approach is to use measures in the Irish Criminal Justice Act, introduced to combat drug barons, against the Real IRA. This would involve increased surveillance and searches, and what has proved successful against the drug barons, the seizure of assets.

"They might still be there but they would not have money to buy fertiliser or any other bomb equipment or guns," a source said last night.

With the net tightening round the Real IRA, Mr Ahern, speaking at a joint press conference with Mr Blair, said: "We will do whatever we have to do."

He accused what he described as the "fringe militant group" of having planned outrages even before the Good Friday Agreement had been signed.

Earlier, Mr Ahern was more specific, saying he did not have "any real doubt in my mind" that the blame lay with "members of what they term themselves the 32 County Sovereignty, the Real IRA or whatever else they call themselves."

Sinn Féin, the political wing of the IRA, joined in the condemnation. Unusually, given a republican culture hostile to any form of "grassing", Mr McLaughlin admitted that dissident republicans were probably responsible.

### Inside

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# Omagh massacre

Some security sources believe that the IRA might hand over weapons to prevent them falling into the hands of the Real IRA.

## Loyalists signal their ceasefire is secure

**THE RESPONSE /** Opponents believe Real IRA has erred, write John Mullin and Ewen MacAskill

**M**AINSTREAM loyalist paramilitaries were last night ready to stick with their four-year-old ceasefire. Their position, signalled after a series of meetings, was some comfort on a savage weekend as Northern Ireland's leaders strove to keep the political process on course.

The move came as Tony Blair cut short his holiday in France to fly to Belfast. He was clearly affected by the tragedy, and stayed overnight. Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, was due to return from Greece this morning.

The Ulster Defence Association and the paramilitary outfit to which it is linked, the Ulster Freedom Fighters, together with the Ulster Volunteer Force, were outraged at the bombing of Omagh.

But they are prepared to withstand the Real IRA's attempts to goad them back into violence.

One senior loyalist source said that the groups realised it would be an error to retaliate when violent republicanism was so close to destroying itself over mass murder, which is thought to have killed more Catholics than Protestants.

But there could be rogue elements prepared to exact revenge, and the Loyalist Volunteer Force, on ceasefire since May, is seen as the most likely to hit back. It has been responsible for 18 murders in two years.

There was a growing conviction in Northern Ireland last night that the Real IRA's support had been eroding, and that the Irish government was prepared to act against its leaders. Most live in the republic. Downing Street called it the group of last resistance.

The stand of the loyalist paramilitary groups, particularly the UDA and UFF, is an important boost. The UDA's political ally, the Ulster Democratic Party, failed to win a seat in the 108-seat assembly, sparking fears about the in-

stability of the process. The UDA issued an appeal for no retaliation.

The UDA and UFF were engaged in a flurry of killings at the beginning of the year after the loyalist leader Billy Wright was shot dead. They restored the ceasefire after involvement in the killings of three Catholics.

A key factor in the loyalists' decision is thought to have been Gerry Adams's outright condemnation of Saturday's bombing. Although loyalists mistrust Mr Adams, it was the first time a Sinn Féin leader had used the term "condemnation" when commenting on an attack mounted by any republican organisation.

Mr Adams was unequivocal. He said: "I reiterate my total condemnation of this action. There should now be an urgent meeting of all the political parties here to discuss a way out of the crisis."

What we need to do is not to give up hope. People need to have the conviction that we are going to see peace in this country. We should keep going and not be deflected by anything from working towards that goal.

His colleague, Martin McGuinness, went further. He effectively accused the Real IRA of the bombing, a theme picked up on by Michael McGlaughlin, the Sinn Féin chairman.

Mr McGuinness said: "I have no doubt over the course of the next 24 hours that we will have, I think, a very firm opinion as to who was responsible. I certainly have my own view that it could be this group, which describe them-

selves as the IRA, which I think most people within the republican community would not recognise as the IRA at all."

Ominously for the Real IRA, he predicted "a massive backlash within the republican nationalist community in the course of the next coming days and weeks". The voice of that community would be made "crystal clear" and he called on the Real IRA to cease its activities.

There is speculation in Belfast that Mr Adams, praised by Mr Blair for a genuine commitment to peace, could use the situation to marginalise the Real IRA further. That could signal some comfort for David Trimble, first minister and leader of the Ulster Unionists, ahead of next month's crucial meeting of the new assembly.

He has long been under pressure from Unionist colleagues over Sinn Féin's participation in the power-sharing executive. Sinn Féin is due two places in the 12-member executive under the proportionality rules.

Any small gesture on the part of the IRA to begin de-commissioning of its terrorist arsenal, or a statement that the war is over, would give Mr Trimble room for manoeuvre. Some security sources believe that the IRA might hand over weapons to prevent them falling into the hands of the Real IRA.

Many Unionists remain unconvinced by the security forces' assertions that they do not believe that IRA members are involved with the Real IRA. These Unionists think that the Omagh massacre was the logical outcome of what they perceive as government concessions to Sinn Féin to prevent a return to IRA violence.

The bombing brought again calls for the re-introduction of selective internment without trial. Both the Dublin and London governments appeared to be flirting with the notion early yesterday. They believe it could work, but would be a high risk strategy. Although intelligence is much better now and any arrests would be on a smaller scale, they are worried that internment could spark a resurgence in support for the paramilitaries, as it did a quarter of a century ago.



John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, inspects the scene of the Omagh bombing yesterday. PHOTOGRAPH: DAN CHUNG

Ronnie Mannan, chief constable of the RUC, and Pat Byrne, the Garda commissioner, will meet today. The identities of the prime suspects are known. One was at his home last night, advising reporters to talk to his solicitor if they wanted a comment.

Mr Blair spoke to a range of politicians last night, including Mr Trimble, Mr Adams, and the political representatives of the loyalist paramilitaries. Most had broken their holidays to return to Northern Ireland.

He met Bertie Ahern, the Ireland prime minister, at Stormont House, and both men spelled out their determination to deal with the bomb-

devastation and to a nearby hospital. Mr Blair later made a private visit to some of the victims.

Mr Blair said those behind the Omagh bombing had "no political organisation, no vote, no political voice". He added: "They stand for nothing other than the chance to wreck the future for the people of Northern Ireland."

He expressed his deep sympathy for the bereaved in Omagh. "How can we ever express what it must be like to lose a child or to lose your parents in such a way? But in the end I know that amongst all the emotions of grief and anger, people will want to know that we are carrying on

working for peace. That is all we can do.

"Of course we feel a sense that this is a situation so appalling, but we have to carry on and take the measures that are necessary in terms of security. We will do that. I will never give up, we mustn't give up on the process of peace."

Atrocities in Northern Ireland used to beget retaliation. But government sources believe that recent experience has shown each to be a step away from enduring violence. While the Shankill bomb in 1993 provoked the Greysteel massacre and the Kennedy Way killings, with the loss of 19 lives in a week, the LVF's

slaying of a Catholic and his Protestant friend in a bar in Poyntzpass, Co Armagh, seemed to spur the politicians on to greater efforts. The Good Friday Agreement was the product of a month later.

August, generally a month of drift for leaders, has this year, after the tumultuous year of rising to each ever more demanding challenge on the path of the political process, revealed even more than usual.

Omagh has concentrated minds once more. That may be scant consolation for the bereaved and injured, but the murders of 28 people may yet mark the end of poisonous violence in Northern Ireland.

## Bloody Saturday may mark beginning of end for dissidents

**THE REAL IRA /** John Mullin on the suspect group: hardline, committed and unpredictable

**B**RITISH and Irish security forces believe that the Omagh atrocity is the work of the Real IRA — a hardline, committed and, most worryingly of all, unpredictable group which has grown to prominence over the past year.

Responsibility was claimed moments before the bomb went off on Saturday afternoon. A caller telephoned Ulster Television and said he was from Oglagh na hEileann — the term adopted by the Real IRA.

One scant consolation is that the worst atrocity of 30 years of the Troubles may also mark the moment the Real IRA imploded.

Dissident republicans, proud holders of the moral high ground among those who resolutely pursue a united Ireland, could find no excuse yesterday, and they felt support ebbing away. One, an IRA murderer, said: "There are legitimate reasons to oppose the Adams-McGuinness approach but all of that is unimportant now. This ought to mark the end of the Real IRA."

The group's story began in earnest 12 months back. Sinn Féin, in one of its many dramatic policy shifts of the past year, signed up to the Mitchell principles enshrining non-violence last September, and thereby gained a place at the

multi-party political talks at Stormont.

Many Sinn Féin members were as uneasy about that move as the subsequent step to participate in the new Northern Ireland assembly, but in a tightly led organisation most were persuaded to greet what might otherwise be seen as a climbdown as triumph.

Outside the IRA, there were the Irish National Liberation Army and Continuity IRA, mustering perhaps 100 or so members between them. They remained opposed to the IRA ceasefire and the Stormont political talks, but the security forces were confident they were under control.

But, in a miscalculated attempt to topple the republican leadership of Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness over their approach to the Stormont peace process, the IRA's quartermaster-general demanded an extraordinary convention of the IRA to discuss Sinn Féin's adherence to the Mitchell principles. Although there was sympathy for his stance, the quartermaster was outmanoeuvred and quit the IRA at the meeting in Omead, Donegal. He promised the IRA's arms dumps would remain untouched.

About 20 IRA volunteers followed him into the rival outfit, and it has grown to about 100 members since.

Just after the Gweedore fall-out, there were 30 resignations from Sinn Féin in Co Louth, just across the Irish border. (The wordings of 35 defections from the IRA in south Armagh, a republican heartland.)

Then came the founding of the 32 County Sovereignty Committee, dedicated to upholding the Irish Declaration of Independence of more than 70 years ago. Its charter accepts the use of violence, although it claims to be a peaceful outfit.

Although formally the vice-chair, Bernadette Sands-McKevitt, aged 39, is its leading light. She is the wife of another leading supporter of the group, Michael McKevitt. Together, they run a printing business in Dundalk.

She is also the sister of Bobby Sands, the first of 10 republican hunger strikers to die at the Maze prison in 1981. Although based in Dundalk for almost 20 years, she is from Belfast and her involvement was seen as a challenge from Mr Adams's own backyard for the soul of the movement.

She denies suggestions of any previous involvement in the IRA and rejects security force claims that the now renamed 32 County Sovereignty Movement is linked to the Real IRA.

The organisation's founding threatened for a while to break down the geographical barriers in republicanism. There was, though, in the end, little change. Those in the Irish Republic have been less prepared to compromise



and much of the Real IRA's support comes from Kerry, Cork and Louth. It has made some inroads in Northern Ireland, but again in areas such as south Armagh, away from the interface.

The success of the Real IRA's operations was limited. Several car bombs, left in towns in Northern Ireland, failed to explode. Half a dozen were intercepted, usually in

the Irish Republic. Sinn Féin, although it always claims to be unable to speak for the IRA, was enraged at suggestions that IRA members were tipping off the security forces, instead blaming the Real IRA's ineptitude.

The death of the Real IRA's first martyr was certainly force. Ronan MacLochlainn, aged 27, a father of three, was shot dead in May near Dublin

Michael McKevitt and his wife, Bernadette Sands-McKevitt, the sister of Bobby Sands, the first of 10 republican hunger strikers to die at the Maze prison in 1981. Both are leading members of the 32 County Sovereignty Movement but deny alleged links to the Real IRA.



Present at MacLochlainn's funeral were Mr McKevitt, Ms Sands-McKevitt and Francis Mackey. So too were most of the Real IRA, giving police plenty of opportunity to identify its leaders.

Mr Mackey was a Sinn Féin councillor in Omagh until he was expelled from the party four months ago over his support for the dissident organisation. He gave the graveside

oration, proclaiming: "As a true republican, Ronan remained loyal and true to the constitution of Oglagh na hEileann when others used and usurped that constitution." It was hardline stuff.

The bombing attempts continued, and security forces were increasingly worried about unclear and insufficient warnings. They believed the Real IRA was working closely with the Continuity IRA and INLA, whose claim to have bombed Newtonhamilton, in south Armagh, on the eve of June's assembly elections rang hollow. It has next to no bomb expertise.

Police swooped on a BMW in Dun Laoghaire, south of Dublin, in April. It was carrying a massive bomb and its driver was preparing to drive on to the Holyhead ferry. They also last month foiled a plot to bomb London, with the arrests of four youngsters, fuelling speculation that the Real IRA was recruiting the raw and naive.

A republican dissident said yesterday: "In this type of war you always sail close to the wind. It has to be a highly developed organisation to prevent it. Time and again, the IRA messed up, and the level of competence in the Real IRA is nowhere near as good. It was, without doubt, a disaster waiting to happen."

Security forces doubt the excuse of ineptitude. Ronnie Mannan, the RUC Chief Constable, said of the false warnings which led police to move shoppers into the blast's path: "This can only have been deliberate. No ifs. No buts."



# Omagh massacre

## A family without women

Rory Carroll on loss of three generations of farming clan

UNTIL 3pm on Saturday the fields around Omagh had been for 100 years given the Grimes family what they wanted: most roots, a place to raise their young and stay together. Such was the success of their dairy farm, neighbours joked about the Catholic family becoming a dynasty. No one will make the joke again. Saturday's bomb ripped through three generations: Mary, aged 85, her daughter Avril, aged 30, and Avril's three children. Only one of these last, 18-month-old Maura, will appear on the casualty list, for Avril was pregnant with twins. Yesterday a convoy of cars with ash-faced relatives churned the muddy path to the Grimes's farm, on top of a hill in the townland of Cookey, one mile from the village of Beragh, seven from Omagh. The deaths of Avril and her infants had yet to be confirmed but hope was draining with every minute. Mick, Mary's husband and Avril's father, was unable to speak. He could only sit and mourn his wife and prepare to mouro his daughter and grandchildren. Only two days ago he was his typical self, cracking jokes and planning his next project. A prosperous farmer and the publisher of the local magazine, he was an important man in Beragh, the closest they had to a first citizen. If something needed sorting, he was your man. Mary kept a good home and all the children turned out well. In their world, they had it made. What sounded like a clap of thunder could be heard on the hill on Saturday, but work continued until a radio newsreader, hesitantly, said there was talk of injured. Workmen resumed hosing the yard and looking after the

animals yesterday, but inside the house the Grimes just hugged and cried. Few had slept the night before.

One of Avril's brothers emerged briefly, his eyes and voice raw. "We can't talk. Nothing's been confirmed yet, we've got to wait for confirmation."

Dark-haired, pretty, Avril was vivacious and had thrown herself into community work, youth clubs and charity fund-raising. She had a good word to say about everyone, a farm employee said, suddenly appalled he had avoided the present tense.

His colleague, younger, added: "Lovely, that's the word for her, lovely, like her mother. Loads of energy, always doing things."

Avril married young and became Mrs Monaghan, but did not move far, just down the road to Augher. She had three children before Maura, but this pregnancy would produce her first twins.

It is not known why Avril was in the centre of Omagh on Saturday — possibly to show Maura her first festival, possibly to buy school uniforms for her other children.

Her mother Mary often went shopping downtown, picking up bargains in Dunna's Stores. Neighbours said she originally came from Cork but settled in the opposite end of the island after falling in love with Mick.

Though spirited, they were not the sort of women to flout the police during a bomb warning. They would be sensible and follow the advice, so like hundreds of others they were herded towards the bomb.

One man, tears streaming down his face, said it was the most savage end. "That's what I do to cattle, I herd them into the slaughterhouse. But Jesus save us, to happen to Mary and Avril!"



Grieving residents waiting outside an information point for news of victims. Above right, one of the dead, Ann McCombe. PHOTOGRAPH: PETER MORRISON



'Lovely, that's the word for her, lovely, like her mother. Loads of energy, always doing things'

A friend on Avril Monaghan, who died in the blast — along with her mother and her unborn twins

## 'I saw my wife face down in the rubble. She had no pulse'

THE VICTIMS / Father weeps as he tells how his rugby-mad son lost a leg in the explosion

Rory Carroll and Henry McDonald

THE Skelton family makes only two trips a year into Omagh town centre during busy Saturday afternoons. Once just before Christmas, the other in mid-August when they buy uniforms for their children going back to school. Kevin Skelton had just left his wife Philomena and daughters Paula, aged 18, Tracey, 15, and Shauna, 13, in Kells outitters — the main shop selling school uniforms in Omagh — when the bomb went off. "I heard the explosion and ran into the street. It was as if the entire shop had fallen out. Then I saw my wife, she was lying in the rubble. She was face down, her clothes had been blown off her. I felt for her pulse but there was none," Mr Skelton said. Paula and Tracey escaped unscathed but Shauna was taken to the local hospital where she had a brace fitted to her jaw due to facial injuries. "I knew Philomena was dead but I still had to go out and officially identify her last night at half past nine," said Mr Skelton, aged 43, a prominent Gaelic football referee in County Tyrone. He met his wife when he was just 15 and they married four years later. Philomena would have been 40 on September 1.

hospital in Londonderry and his mother was taken there for treatment for multiple fractures and facial injuries. "How could they do this to innocent, ordinary people on a Saturday afternoon?" Mr Hall said as he watched the latest TV news pictures of the tragedy.

Mr Hall appeared a broken man, a world away from the image of him standing smiling with his children on photographs adorning the walls in his house.

He produced a rugby ball from the 1991 World Cup and said: "Alastair loved playing but he will never be able to again."

"He was out with his mum, buying some trousers for going back to school, when the warning came. They came out of the shop and tried to get to the car. If they'd stayed in the shop they would have been killed."

"He's only 12, I'm 67, why couldn't it have happened to me?"

SEVENTEEN-year-old Brenda Logue had recently asked her neighbour Sean McAnesple for work on his mushroom farm near Lough Macrory — a republican stronghold a few miles outside Omagh. Yesterday morning Brenda lay dead in a makeshift morgue at an army camp.

She had left her mother and grandmother in a shop to see why people were fleeing, when she was caught in the full force of the blast. Her father Tommy, a truck driver, was told of her death yesterday but said: "I knew all along, I knew because the front of the shop was blown out and nobody could survive that."



The mother and brother of victim Brenda Logue

PHOTOGRAPH: PETER MORRISON

Brenda was a popular outgoing girl who played in goal for her village's ladies Gaelic football team, St Theresa's. Yesterday her family broke down inside Omagh leisure centre, which was being used as an incident centre collecting information about the dead and injured. The Logues, including Brenda's youngest brother and her twin Cathal, had to be

assisted by Red Cross volunteers out of the building after officially identifying Brenda.

Sean McAnesple watched from a distance inside the centre. "She was a fun-loving type of girl, she would have done anything for anyone. She asked me for a job recently, she was willing to earn her keep. She was a first class girl," said Mr McAnesple, who is a Sinn Féin councillor for the area where Brenda grew up.

MANY of the dead and injured came from villages such as Lough Macrory and nearby Carrickmore — both areas with a strong support base for Sinn Féin.

Rumours about who had been killed were flying so thick and fast that survivors were included on original death lists. Local publican J Maguire was caught in the explosion. Many people who visited the leisure centre yesterday were astounded to see him alive. He has owned The Copey Corner bar at the bottom of Market Street, where the bomb went off, for 16 years. Elizabeth Rush, who owns

the fancy goods shop next door, was killed.

Mr Maguire said: "The walls just came down around me. People were lying about everywhere yet when I got up I realised I was not even injured, but Elizabeth next door was dead. Shortly afterwards it was reported around town that I had been killed. But as you can see, here I am."

Mr Maguire is one of the lucky few. The walls of the Omagh leisure centre are covered with the names of the hundreds injured in the atrocity.

NO ONE section of the Omagh community has escaped the tragedy. Fred White, aged 60, an officeholder in the local Omagh Ulster Unionist Association, died along with his son Bryan. It is understood the dead also include the teenage daughter of a local police officer.

According to his friend and colleague, local Unionist MP Willie Thompson, Mr White had gone to town to buy provisions after returning from holiday abroad on Saturday.

SAMANTHA McFarland, a 17-year-old student at Strabane College of Further Education, died while out shopping with her mother, who is still missing.

The young student's aunt, Rita Ewing, described her niece as a "happy, happy, very pretty girl who loved her parents and her family". Mrs Ewing, who originally comes from Omagh, said she was neither Unionist nor nationalist but bitterly criticised the British for "giving everything to the criminals".

Another student who died was Julianne Hughes, 21, from a Scottish university, who was working during the summer in one of the Omagh shops which caught the full impact of the blast.

Spanish boy and teacher first foreign casualties

David Sharrock in Madrid

IT took nearly 30 years of violence before foreign visitors to Northern Ireland died as a result of terrorism.

Rocio Abad Ramos, aged 28, a teacher in charge of a group of 28 Spanish schoolchildren visiting Omagh's summer festival, and Fernando Blasco Basciga, believed to be 13 years old, were the victims.

They died with three boys from Donegal, Sean McLaughlin and James Barker, both aged 15, and his neighbour Oran Doherty, aged eight, the sons of families who had been hosting the Spanish pupils in Buncrana.

The five victims were among a group of 43 who had been on a bus excursion to the Ulster American Folk Park. Before returning home they decided to travel the few miles into Omagh to shop.

Father Shane Bradley, who comes from Omagh, announced the names of the five during mass in Buncrana's St Mary's Oratory. He said: "It's three and a half years since I arrived in Buncrana and out in my wildest nightmares thought I would have the task I have today."

A Garda officer in Buncrana said: "The shopping was a last-minute decision. The town is stunned."

Twelve other children on the trip were being treated in hospitals around Northern Ireland, none believed to be gravely injured. Spain's foreign minister, Abel Matutes, and vice-president, Francisco Alvarez Cascos, were preparing last night to fly to Omagh. An advance party of families of the victims and injured — most of whom live in or near Madrid — was being flown home yesterday.



# Omagh massacre

In the window lay a dead baby, almost stripped of its clothing by the blast, its pushchair still standing nearby



A video shot by an amateur cameraman in the centre of Omagh on Saturday afternoon captures the full horror of the moments after a peaceful market town was shattered by the car bomb that wreaked devastation and killed dozens of people

## 'The whole thing is so terrible, so

**THE ATTACK / Stuart Millar and Henry McDonald on how terrorists brought death to an ordinary Saturday afternoon**

**A**LITTLE after 2pm and the winding streets of Omagh were packed even by the standards of a fine August Saturday afternoon. Parents had come into the centre of the Co Tyrone market town to drag children around the shops in search of new uniforms for the new school term. Other families strolled around, waiting for a street carnival involving hundreds of Protestant and Catholic youngsters. It was also a Catholic feast day.

Then came the warning. Around 2.30pm the Ulster Television newsroom in Belfast received a call claiming that a bomb would go off near the courthouse at the end of Omagh's High Street. The male caller said he was from

her husband Micky to tell him about the alert before making her way to the police cordon at the junction of Market Street and Dublin Road. To the dozens already waiting there, the evacuation was a minor inconvenience before they got back to the serious business. Twenty-five minutes later, their Saturday afternoon disappeared under the rubble of their town centre as a massive blast ripped families and buildings apart. The explosion came not from the courthouse but at the other end of town, yards from the spot where Mrs Gallagher and the others had been shepherded for safety. None of them had paid much attention to a maroon Vauxhall Astra parked nearby, close to SD Kells' drapery shop. As a result, the 500lb bomb hidden inside it brought instant and horrific devastation.

"When I heard the bang I went straight to the courthouse where they said the bomb was but it wasn't there," said Mr Gallagher, aged 36, who had expected the main event of the weekend to be the celebrations for the couple's 19th wedding anniversary. "Then I realised it was further down and I started to see all the chaos and the injured people. To think they ran into that bomb, it's terrible."

His wife survived, but suffered extensive shrapnel wounds, fractures and a neck injury. She was transferred to the Royal Victoria Hospital, Belfast. When the dust and smoke cleared, the scene that greeted survivors was appalling. People lay dead all around, surrounded by the twisted wreckage of buildings and cars. The staff of one shop were wiped out. Water spraying from burst water mains carried blood over the debris, occasionally exposing limbs torn from bodies by the force of the blast. In the window of Kells' lay a dead baby, almost stripped of its clothing by the blast, its pushchair still standing nearby.

Dorothy Boyle, aged 59, wept as she described the victims, including a young pregnant woman who had lost her legs and a woman in a wheelchair screaming for help. "I saw bodies lying everywhere. I saw them being put in bags and being zipped up. There was one boy had half his leg blown off and it was lying there with the wee shoe still on it. He didn't cry or anything. He was just in shock."

Frank Fancott, a driving instructor, escaped death by seconds, moving away from the seat of the taxi shortly before the bomb exploded. "It was just total devastation. Human bodies were torn to pieces. I saw a two-year-old child and there was smoke coming out of its body."

"There was just so much screaming. I never thought I would see anything like it in my life," said another man. With telephone lines destroyed and the death toll rising, panic set in. The instinct for desperate relatives was to rush into the rubble to search for missing loved ones but police forced them back, throwing a cordon of Land Rovers around the area. Louis Godfrey, aged 18, said: "There was one girl about 21 who just sat there hugging this wee fella who was dead. He was about eight years old. She didn't want to let him go. She kept saying over and over, 'What has he ever done to anybody? He's so young.' Eventually a policeman persuaded her to let go."

### Thirty years of violence in Northern Ireland

**December 1971** Ulster Volunteer Force kills 15 people when McGurk's bar in Belfast is bombed.  
**January 1972** Bloody Sunday. Paratrooper Regiment shoot dead 13 people taking part in a banned civil rights march in Londonderry.  
**February 1972** Seven killed when the IRA exploded a bomb outside the officers' mess of 18 Parachute Brigade, in Aldershot.  
**July 1972** Twenty-two IRA bombs explode in Belfast, killing a total of nine people.  
**February 1974** Twelve die in the M62 coach bombing.  
**May 1974** IRA bombs in Dublin and Monaghan kill 31 on the same day.  
**November 1974** Two IRA bombs in Birmingham pubs kill 21.  
**August 1975** UVF kills three members of the Miami Showband.  
**October 1975** UVF launches a series of attacks leaving 12 dead in Northern Ireland.  
**February 1978** IRA firebombs set hotel ablaze near Belfast, killing 12.  
**March 1978** IRA bomb kills Alroy Neave, Tory Northern Ireland spokesman, at House of Commons car park.  
**August 1979** An IRA bomb kills 18 soldiers at Warrenpoint, Northern Ireland.  
**July 1982** Eleven soldiers die in IRA bomb attacks in Hyde Park and Regent's Park.  
**October 1984** Five killed in IRA bomb attack on Grand Hotel, Brighton, during Tory Party conference.

**December 1982** IRA bomb destroys the Droppin' Well Bar in Ballykelly, killing 17 people, including 11 British soldiers.  
**December 1983** IRA kills six with a bomb at Harrods.  
**November 1987** 11 civilians killed at Enniskillen during a Remembrance Day service.  
**March 1988** Three IRA members shot dead by the SAS in Gibraltar. At their Belfast funeral, loyalist Michael Stone kills three mourners. Four days later two soldiers who drove into the funeral of IRA man killed by Stone are lynched and shot dead.  
**September 1989** Eleven Royal Marine bandmen killed in bombing of Marine school of music at Doel.  
**January 1992** Seven Protestant construction workers killed by IRA bombs at Robinsons Crossroads in County Tyrone.  
**October 1993** IRA bomb in fish shop in Shankill Road, Belfast, kills 10 and injures 53.  
**October 1993** Seven die in a bar frequented by Catholics and Protestants in Greysteel near Londonderry. The Ulster Freedom Fighters (UFF) claim responsibility.  
**July 1996** Three young brothers killed in Loyalist firebombing of their home in Bellmoyne, County Antrim.  
**August 1996** A bomb in the village of Banbridge, 25 miles south-west of Belfast, injures 35. The Real IRA splinter group claims responsibility.  
**August 1998** Car bomb in Omagh kills 28 people. The single deadliest attack in Northern Ireland in 30 years of sectarian violence.

## MI5 holds key to the security line

**INTELLIGENCE / Surveillance and informers underpin the forces' fight, writes Richard Norton-Taylor**

**L**ESS than three weeks ago, in a booklet spelling out its past activities and new priorities, MI5 described the continuing threat posed by terrorists in Northern Ireland. MI5, it said, "monitors closely any changes in the nature and level of the threat, including that posed by groups opposed to the peace process (such as the recently created 32 County Sovereignty Committee) and makes adjustments to the effort deployed accordingly".

The RUC and the army are deployed in response to what they call the "perceived threat" derived from intelligence-gathering through informers and surveillance, and analysing that intelligence. Decisions on deploying extra troops and police are taken by the RUC and Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, on advice of the security and intelligence services. Army patrols have been scaled down in the year leading up to the peace agreement, mainly in areas such as west Belfast where the IRA was unchallenged. In other areas, notably South Armagh, the army has increased its presence — recently, for example, setting up barriers in the town of Bessbrook.

The number of soldiers based in Northern Ireland has been kept at about 17,000. The pattern of patrols in Omagh — where there are about 1,000 soldiers — had not changed, an army spokesman said yesterday. He added: "The only way to stop car bombs is to seal the place off." Without an intelligence warning of every impending attack, that means permanently. Ronan Fanning, the RUC chief constable, made clear yesterday he believed the 32 County Sovereignty Committee and its terrorist wing — the Real IRA — were responsible for the Omagh bomb. A spokeswoman for the Sovereignty Committee has denied the allegation. But while the security services have their suspicions as to who was behind the Omagh bombing they do not have enough evidence for the police to make arrests and bring charges. MI5 believes that Real IRA has worked with two other extreme republican groups — Continuity IRA and INLA — in recent operations, including terrorist attacks on London last month that were averted at the last minute.

The failed attacks followed a "reflexionist terror summit" in Dundalk between INLA, the Continuity IRA and the Real IRA. The London arrests, including those of three Irish students in their twenties, made it clear that those involved in the planned attacks had been under close surveillance. But, according to police sources, the security services had also been tipped off by an informer. The Omagh attack suggests those responsible had been extremely careful in taking counter-intelligence measures, perhaps having learnt from the London episode. And though the Omagh bombing is likely to lead to moves by the IRA on decommissioning weapons, the security services know that the dissident groups still have explosives, including Semtex, at their disposal. Explosives, the security services say, pose more of a threat to civilian life than do firearms. And they have consistently said that it is not weapons which are the problem so much as the intention to use them.

The attack on Omagh is likely to lead to further calls for changes in anti-terrorism legislation so that the leaders of groups suspected of committing attacks can be arrested, not just those individuals against whom there is evidence of direct responsibility.



A soldier stands guard at the Omagh bomb site yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH DAN CHUNG



# Omagh massacre

'I condemn this atrocity unequivocally and without reservation'  
**John Kelly, Sinn Fein Assemblyman**



The body of a victim is carried from the scene in another photograph taken from video shot by an amateur cameraman



## so stupid, so foolish, so senseless'

"When I arrived at the hospital there were so many people injured and I didn't know where to start," said Dominic Pinto, the senior consultant surgeon. Meanwhile, people were making their way up the blood-covered steps to endure the tortuous wait for news of their relatives or friends. Faces glazed with shock and tension, they listened as nurses read out a long list of the injured, whole families at a time in many cases. For some there was relief as the name they had been waiting for was finally read. For others, the agony of waiting continued.

"I've never seen so much blood in my life," said Agnes Mullin, who spent an hour at the hospital searching for her daughter. "It was on the faces, on the seats, everywhere." She eventually found her daughter uninjured at a friend's house.

There were similar scenes at the Omagh leisure centre, hurriedly converted into a field hospital to cope with the aftermath of the blast.

Throughout the night, the centre was crowded as relatives of the dead and maimed struggled to come to terms with their loss, while those still awaiting news of loved ones continued their grim vigil. Occasionally, a family rushed snatching from the room as news of the latest deaths arrived. Many existed through the night on a diet of cigarettes and tea distributed by volunteers.

By yesterday morning the horror and confusion had been replaced by an all-encompassing sense of shock, but the death toll continued to rise. Tommy Logue had waited all night to hear whether his daughter Brenda, aged 17, was among the dead. When confirmation finally came, it was no surprise. "I knew all along that she was dead," he said. The tragedy was underlined when an ambulance transferring victims between hospitals collided with a car, killing the driver.

While the security services resumed the grim search for bodies buried under the rubble and worked on identifying

**'It was the nearest thing to a horror movie that I've ever witnessed. Kids, blood streaming from the heads. I'll never forget it. I've been through 11 bombs but nothing like this. I'm still completely numb'**

the dead, politicians joined social workers, police and medical staff at the leisure centre to offer comfort to those whose loved ones had been killed.

Among them was John Kelly, a Sinn Fein Assemblyman. Mr Kelly was once a leading IRA figure, setting up the Provisionals in 1968 with the aid of elements within the then Irish government. Signifi-

cantly, he used the word Irish republicans have refused to utter throughout three decades of conflict: **condemn**.

"I condemn this atrocity unequivocally and without reservation," he said.

His presence there was ostensibly because he is an Assembly member for the nearby Mid-Ulster constituency as well as being chairman of the local tourist development agency — a far cry from the days of revolutionary armed struggle.

But his presence and his outright condemnation of other republicans — those who carried out the Omagh atrocity — personifies the seismic shift within the mainstream Sinn Fein-Provisional IRA movement. By condemning the Real IRA's action Mr Kelly, Gerry Adams and others have crossed an important ideological rubicon. After this it will be difficult for them in the future not to condemn further acts of violence by other republicans.

Mr Kelly could not resist alluding to a possible conspiracy theory behind the bomb.

"This was done to cause the maximum amount of damage. Just two weeks ago we were discussing the possibility of a bomb in a nationalist town. I don't think people should overlook the possibility of a malevolent hand, possibly elements within the security forces, being behind this."

But the real reason may be much more prosaic. Local republicans said they believed the bomb had been left by people they described as "amateurs" who probably gave the wrong location for the bomb.

Mr Kelly called on the Real IRA to end its armed campaign. "They should stop now because it's just damaging the prospects of a final settlement. You're going against the entire wishes of all republicans."

His comments yesterday demonstrated how Irish history appears to be repeating itself, an echo of the line from the old Official IRA leadership in 1969 who warned the fledgling Provisionals about the dangers of continuing the armed struggle.

But most in the town yesterday were more consumed by the personal impact of the atrocity than by its politics. Few had slept but many families made the journey to the cluster of churches at the top end of the town to mourn the dead.

More than 800 people turned out for the early mass in St Joseph's hall beside the Catholic Church of the Sacred Heart. There, they prayed for Geraldine Breslin, a young married parishioner, who died in hospital in the early hours of yesterday.

As members of the congregation sat with their heads in their hands or stared straight ahead, Fr Michael Keaveny told them: "From the point of view of the people who suffered there was no distinction, Catholic and Protestant,

young and old, there was no question of wanting to get one side rather than another. The whole thing sounds so terrible, so stupid, so foolish, so senseless."

Patrick Darcy, a parishioner, said: "I feel diminished as an Irishman that other Irishmen could come to this town and scatter the blood of Irishmen, women and children over these streets."

Another, Damien Turbitt, had been in his hairdresser's shop when the bomb exploded nearby. "It was the nearest thing to a horror movie that I've ever witnessed. Kids, blood streaming from the heads. I'll never forget it."

He had not slept — "We all just paced the floor all night" — and still could not take in what had happened. "I've been through 11 bombs but

nothing like this. I'm still completely numb."

At Omagh Presbyterian church, inside the security cordon, the 300-strong congregation exchanged stories of the horror each of them had gone through after the explosion. Darryl Simpson became separated from the rest of his family and spent two hours checking bodies to find them. "It seems selfish talking about it now but it was all I could think about at the time. All of our family, all nine of us, stayed together in the one bedroom last night."

Outside the church, friends embraced, a sombre celebration of the fact that they were still alive. It was, said one man, an occasion when the phrase "Good to see you" took on a whole new meaning.

## Attack founded on change in tactics

**THE BOMB** / Terrorists may have beaten security ring by new route, write John Mullin and Stuart Millar

**D**ETECTIVES in the Irish Republic said last night they believed the maroon Vauxhall Astra used in the bomb attack on Omagh was stolen in County Monaghan.

That marks a departure from recent practice by the Real IRA. It had taken to stealing cars and preparing devices in Northern Ireland after a series of successful interceptions by the Gardaí.

Since the group carried out its first bomb attack, on the mainly Protestant village of Markethill, Co Armagh, last September, the Gardaí and RUC have intercepted 10 attempts, seizing around 7,500lb of explosives. Last month, the RUC intercepted a 1,400lb bomb in Moy, Co Tyrone, believed to be intended for Armagh city centre.

Saturday's bomb was south of home-made explosives. It used a timer device, an old-fashioned method typical of the Real IRA, which still has little access to sophisticated technology.

The Real IRA has few weapons, and so has mounted only one shooting in Northern Ireland in the past year. It has instead concentrated on bomb and mortar attacks, with varying success.

Six bombs have exploded, while another six have failed to ignite. But security forces have grown increasingly worried that the warnings have been insufficient. They believe this is a deliberate ploy, culminating in the police's decision, based on the warning call to the UTV newsroom in Belfast, to gather Saturday afternoon shoppers close to where the bomb was planted. They say the warnings for the devices which exploded in

**The Real IRA may have established a secure bomb making operation**

Newtonhamilton, south Armagh, on the eve of June's assembly elections, and two weeks ago in Banbridge, Co Down, were designed to cause confusion. About 60 people were injured, none seriously, in the two incidents as police scrambled to clear the areas.

The Real IRA has favoured using BMWs, with their large boots, for transporting devices. It has also used 4x4 ve-

hicles on four of the recent occasions.

The Gardaí had long believed that the Real IRA was capable of pulling off devastating explosions. After a series of setbacks, when its operations were intercepted by the Garda Special Branch, it appeared to have established a secure bomb-making operation in the border area.

While it is not thought to have access to the Provisional IRA's two tonne stockpile of Semtex, the Real IRA has been mounting bomb and mortar attacks once a fortnight over the past few months. It has formed an alliance with the Continuity IRA and the Irish National Liberation Army, which was allowed to claim the Newtonhamilton device as its own.

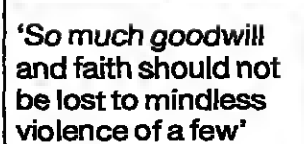
The group includes capable bomb-making figures. Two of the Provisionals' top electrical engineers, who assemble the circuit boards and timer-power units, are believed to have gone over to the new group. The experience and skills — the "fingerprints" — of former senior Provisional bomb-makers have become evident in explosives intercepted at Dumdalk and Dun Laoghaire.

The bombs are primarily made from the traditional IRA "home-made" ingredients of ammonium nitrate fertilizer and sugar. They are super-charged by Semtex booster charges, and with coils of plastic tubing containing powdered Semtex.

### What world leaders said



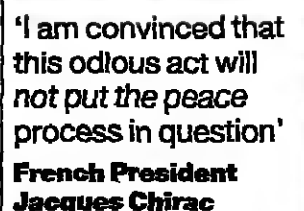
**'I hope people of goodwill will not yield to violence [but] preserve the co-operation on which the country depends'**  
**Pope John Paul**



**'So much goodwill and faith should not be lost to mindless violence of a few'**  
**President Nelson Mandela**



**'On behalf of every American, I condemn this butchery and hope the culprits will be brought to justice'**  
**President Bill Clinton**



**'I am convinced that this odious act will not put the peace process in question'**  
**French President Jacques Chirac**

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Man detained by Pakistan confesses to helping build the devices that tore the embassies apart

# Bomb suspect extradited

Suzanne Goldenberg in Lahore and Julian Borger in Jerusalem

**T**HE Pakistani government confirmed yesterday that it has arrested and extradited a man who confessed to planning the bombing of the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, the first breakthrough for investigators since the double attack on August 7.

A foreign ministry statement said Mohammed Sadik Howaida was detained at Karachi airport when he arrived from Nairobi on the day of the bombings.

Intelligence officials said he was deported to Kenya on August 14, accompanied by FBI agents.

Mr Howaida aroused the suspicion of immigration officials because he did not match the details in his passport, which described the bearer as "a bearded man with substantial build". Mr Howaida is said to be clean-shaven and slight.

The Pakistani police said that under interrogation Mr Howaida, aged 33, confessed to designing and helping to build the bombs used at Nairobi and Dar es Salaam, which killed 257 people.

According to local newspaper reports, he told the police that two other men involved in the attacks had arrived in Pakistan undetected and travelled to neighbouring Afghanistan.

"On satisfaction about his involvement in these terrorist acts, he was sent back to Nairobi and handed over to the Kenyan authorities for appropriate action under their law," the foreign ministry said.

Press reports said Mr Howaida told his interrogators that the bombings were the product of years of planning. He said he had lived in Kenya for three years, in Mombasa and Nairobi.

The Pakistani foreign minister, Sartaj Aziz, said: "He was trying to transit through here, he was just using the channel, he had a Yemeni passport. Probably he was trying to go to Afghanistan; that is a suspicion. He had no other links here."



Relatives prepare to lower the coffin of US embassy employee Phaedra Vrontomitzi at a cemetery near Nairobi on Saturday. PHOTOGRAPH BY ANTONY MURRAY

Mr Aziz said it was uncertain whether Mr Howaida had links to the Taliban Islamist militia, which controls all but a few pockets of Afghanistan.

Neither the Pakistani government nor the local press said what nationality Mr Howaida is or who he was working for. But if he was heading for Afghanistan it would deepen the suspicion that the double bomb attack was masterminded by Osama Bin Laden, a Saudi millionaire and Islamic militant living under Taliban protection in Afghanistan who made several threats against the United States earlier this year.

Meanwhile US officials said a Kenyan guard at the US embassy in Nairobi identified a photograph shown to him by the FBI as someone he had seen at the bombing. The official did not identify the person in the photograph. But some US newspapers said yesterday that it was one of Mr Bin Laden's known associates.

Using his family's fortune earned in the Middle East construction trade, Mr Bin Laden built up a private army

of Islamic zealots in the early 1980s to fight the Russian occupation of Afghanistan. Since then he is reported to have financed a wide range of fundamentalist groups.

Earlier this year he formed "The Islamic Front for Holy War against Jews and Crusaders" to wage war on Israel and the US. One of its affiliates, the Egyptian Islamic Jihad organisation, threatened an attack on US interests only days before the bombings.

Mr Bin Laden is wanted by the US for questioning about

several terrorist attacks on American outposts, including the bombing of barracks in Riyadh and Dhahran in Saudi Arabia in 1996, and the World Trade Centre in New York in 1993.

Like the Saudi attacks, the devastating 1993 attack on the marines headquarters in Beirut also remains unsolved, reflecting the ease with which Islamic militants could disappear in states sympathetic to their cause. Pakistan's arrest and extradition of a suspect on this occasion suggests that those circumstances may be

changing in favour of the US. The state department has offered a \$2 million reward for information on those involved in the bomb attacks.

"We are against terrorism, and we want to co-operate fully," Mr Aziz said, clearly anxious to counter his country's reputation as a conduit for extremists sheltering in Afghanistan.

"The whole world created a haven to Afghanistan — not just Pakistan, but everyone else... It was a jihad. Everyone was supposed to fight the Russians."

Pakistani support to the Taliban — which Islamabad denies — assumed new importance this month as they swept their opponents from the last of the strongholds, reducing their influence to small pockets of Afghanistan.

It is also certain to come under scrutiny following the arrest of a man suspected of being involved in the bombing of the US embassies in east Africa, who

was believed to be on his way to Afghanistan.

Among Mullah Shamzi's most powerful disciples is the governor of Kandahar, Mullah Mohammed Hassan, whose rule has set the standard even for the Taliban. In his southern fiefdom, Mullah Hassan has ordered couples stoned to death for illicit sexual relations and decreed that gay men should be buried alive under rubble. Earlier this year he threw a cup of tea at a United Nations official, prompting the UN's departure from Kandahar.

Mullah Shamzi last visited Kandahar three weeks ago, and had guests from the Taliban leadership just last week. He says he is an adviser on the constitution they are preparing.

He is also unperturbed by critics — including the UN — that his edicts violate modern ideas of human rights. He argues that the

'Our belief is that all Muslim states should have proper Islamic governments'

most extreme edicts, such as the ban on girls' education, are a war-time necessity that will change once the Islamist conquest is complete.

"[The Taliban] are moving towards a proper Islamic state. They have not taken over all of Afghanistan but as they do this, then you will see the model state," he says.

But it is uncertain whether the Taliban want to change. Mullah Shamzi can countenance no change to the laws that punish murder with public execution, theft with amputation and adultery with stoning.

"The main objective of law is to bring harmony to the state," he says, arguing that the Afghan capital, Kabul, was a den of crime and sexual perversion before they arrived two years ago.

## Mullah keeps Taliban on a narrow path

Suzanne Goldenberg in Karachi

**W**ITH his gentle face, and his long beard streaked with grey and white, Mullah Nizamuddin Shamzi would seem a natural object of respect. For the Taliban Islamist militia he is an object of near veneration and his writ is final.

During the past 11 years as an authority on Islamic legal codes at a leading religious seminary in Karachi, he has been tutor to 20 of the men who now rule Afghanistan with a religious fervour that seems drawn from the middle ages.

Mullah Shamzi is unruffled by international condemnation of his puritanism, or critics who ridicule some of the Taliban's injunctions: against television sets, white socks and high heeled shoes for women, and music. "All over the world, there are killings and shootings and mostly that comes from the TV, and so that is why it is not permissible," he said.

Such pronouncements make the mullah the Taliban's supreme authority on the true interpretation of the Islamic codes by which they mean to transform Afghanistan and, if Mullah Shamzi has his way, the rest of the Muslim world.

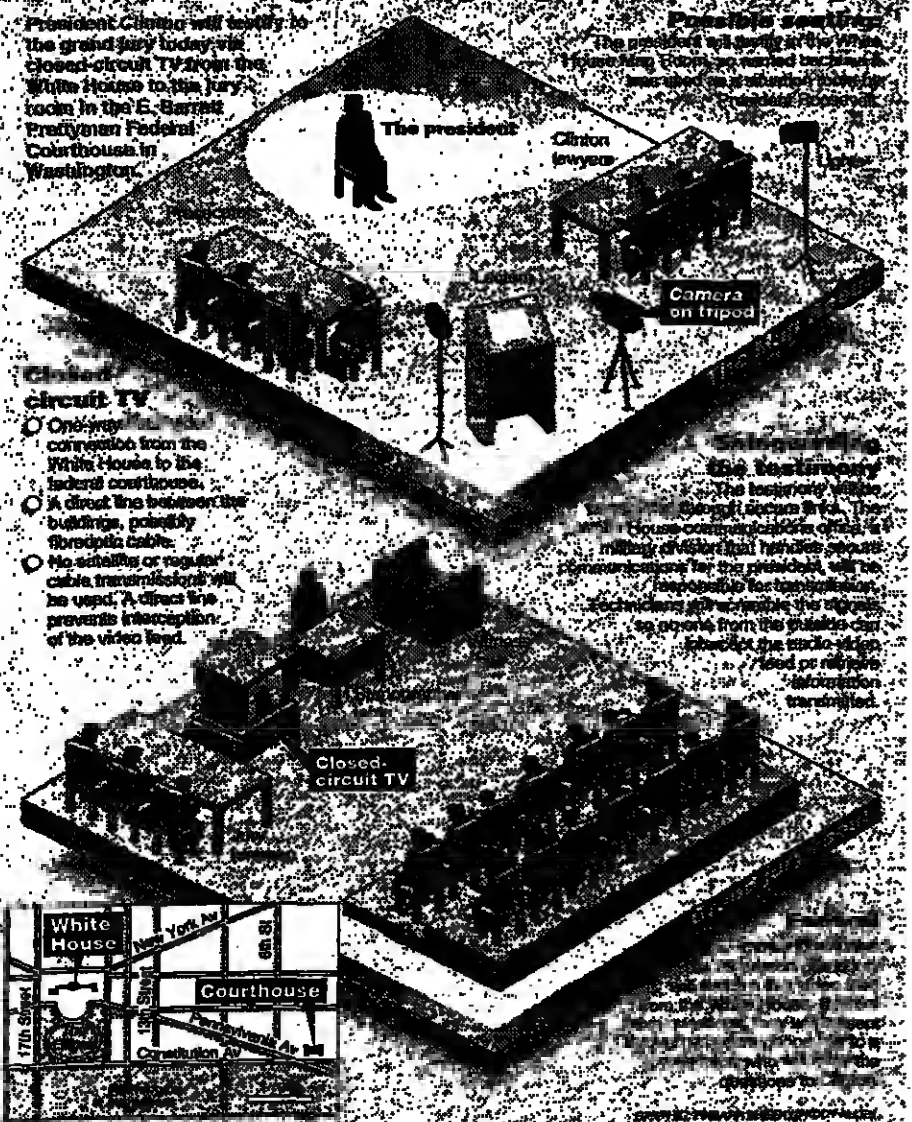
"Our belief is that the rest of the Muslim states should have such governments, but because of the West's material influence it is hard. I would be very happy if Pakistan were like Kandahar. We would be very happy if such a day comes; we are waiting for that day."

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## 'The truth is the truth.' But how will Clinton be judged?

### Clinton's grand jury testimony



Martin Kettle and Gary Younge in Washington

**B**ILL Clinton testifies before the grand jury in the Monica Lewinsky case today. He faces three broad choices: he can admit having an affair, continue his denial, or steer a course between the two.

Yesterday, as Washington hummed with rumours that he will change his story and admit a sexual relationship, his normally uncommunicative lawyer David Kendall issued a statement. "There is apparently an enormous amount of groundless speculation about the president's testimony tomorrow," he said. "The truth is the truth. Period. And that's how the president will testify."

**Option One: Confession** STRATEGY: He admits for the first time, both to the grand jury and the country, that he had an affair with Ms Lewinsky. He confirms her account of the sexual relationship but refuses to go into physical detail. He says he lied during the Paula Jones case to spare his wife and family pain.

He also says he did not ask Ms Lewinsky to lie under oath about the relationship (confirming her version) or cover it up. He stresses that as he cannot run for office again political considerations were not

foremost in his mind. He says he sinned, and asks the American people to forgive him.

**ADVANTAGES:** Opinion polls show that most Americans believe Mr Clinton had an affair and lied about it, and that if he apologised they would consider it a welcome end to the matter. Several Democratic politicians also want the issue laid to rest before November's elections.

This strategy steals much of the independent prosecutor Kenneth Starr's thunder. Faced with denials by all the participants of a cover-up, he has little proof that Mr Clinton obstructed justice or tried to induce perjury. If Mr Starr is left only with Mr Clinton's perjury — and if the president's

appeal to public opinion succeeds — few congressmen will have the stomach for impeachment proceedings.

**DISADVANTAGES:** Mr Clinton is more firmly branded a liar, an unfaithful husband and a weak man. It also means the remainder of his presidency is dominated by congressional hearings on Mr Starr's report, containing evidence of perjury. Although they might not end in impeachment, the hearings would be a huge embarrassment and distraction. A confession will also trigger an attempt to reopen the Paula Jones case. It is not clear how firm public support would be if Mr Clinton confessed after his

previous resolute denials. He might find that the public's impatience conceals a feeling that the president has used up his political credit. Mr Clinton could become a lame duck. Those who have stuck by him may stop giving him the benefit of the doubt. His final two years as president could be lonely.

**Option Two: Denial** STRATEGY: President Clinton sticks to the story he has always told — that he never had sexual relations with Ms Lewinsky and so never asked her to lie about it. In his testimony he goes much further than his supporters have done in public in trying to discredit

her as a witness, accusing her of having a crush on him, of being a stalker and fantasist. He hints at a possible political conspiracy against him, citing Linda Tripp's tapes and Mr Starr's conservative political record.

**ADVANTAGES:** He has been absolutely clear and consistent. His integrity is legally intact and the episode comes down to a "Who do you believe?" conflict between a star-struck 25-year-old former intern and the president. The bonds of loyalty in the Clinton family and the White House machine are reinforced.

The formidable White House spin machine has little difficulty discrediting Ms

her as a witness, accusing her of having a crush on him, of being a stalker and fantasist. He hints at a possible political conspiracy against him, citing Linda Tripp's tapes and Mr Starr's conservative political record.

**DISADVANTAGES:** Very few Americans believe the denials, so Mr Clinton will be widely assumed to be lying. It also ensures that the saga continues long into the autumn and possibly through next year. Mr Starr's investigation, moreover, may turn up evidence to prove that the president is not telling the truth. If tests on Ms Lewinsky's cocktail dress show traces of the president's semen, he has a lot of explaining to do.

Mr Starr may also have evidence that a secret service agent saw Ms Lewinsky performing oral sex on Mr Clinton in the Oval Office. Such testimony would make all the other circumstantial evidence far more incriminating.

If Mr Starr could prove that the president lied twice, it would not only prolong the scandal but strengthen the talk of impeachment.

**Option Three: Wiggle room** STRATEGY: Mr Clinton navigates a legal and linguistic minefield in an attempt to concede that he has dissembled rather than lied. Among the almost endless permutations under discussion, two stand out. Both are predicated on an absolute denial of any attempt to suborn perjury or obstruct justice.

### Advert cashes in on troublesome stain

Julian Borger in Jerusalem

**I**T had to happen. The world's most famous stain was crying out for the right detergent to come along. In Israel, a soap-powder claims to solve Monica Lewinsky's laundry problems.

Television advertisements demonstrating how a particular detergent might have rid Ms Lewinsky's infamous blue cocktail dress of its alleged presidential DNA deposit will be shown in Israel today to coincide with Mr Clinton's testimony to the grand jury.

According to a Tel Aviv advertising agency, the advertisement will portray a secret service attempt to zap

the stain. It opens with a car pulling to a halt outside a house in the middle of the night. Two secret agents sneak past a mailbox — clearly labelled Monica Lewinsky — and break in.

The agents make their way to the bedroom, where a picture of the president and Ms Lewinsky is hanging on the wall. Then one of the agents opens the wardrobe and pulls out a stained white evening dress.

One of the agents opens his attaché case and tells the other: "Use the strong stuff." He pulls out a packet of detergent. The dress goes into the washing machine and emerges minus the stain.

Lewinsky. She has already admitted in taped conversations that she "has lied all her life"; a former lover said that not everything she said could be believed; and her previous lawyer, William Ginsburg, said she had a tendency to "embellish".

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Worried about control of the Nile, Cairo has waded into the political battles of its neighbour, writes **David Hirst**

# Mubarak risks taking sides in Sudan

**T**HE Sudanese opposition, a broad coalition of African southerners and Arab Muslim north-erners known as the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), held a conference in Cairo this weekend to plan the next stage of its struggle against the Khartoum government.

It is the first time Egypt has hosted such a gathering, and it is another blow to the Sudanese leader Hassan al-Turabi and his National Islamic Front.

Reports in Cairo suggest that President Hosni Mubarak has decided to start playing a more active role in the affairs of Egypt's vast southern neighbour. He is alarmed by the worsening conditions there, including the widespread famine, the growing scale and complexity of the civil war, and above all the danger Sudan's territorial disintegration poses to Egypt's vital stake in the waters of the Nile.

In recent years Egypt has taken second place to others in relations with the NDA. Ethiopia, Eritrea and Uganda have supported the alliance's cross-border military operations, while the US, Europe and the African states directly or indirectly involved in the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) have been promoting a peace process between Khartoum and the southern rebels of John Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

The NDA is mainly composed of the two great traditionalist parties of the north — Sadiq al-Mahdi's Umma and Mohammed al-Mirghani's Khatimiya; various so-called "modern" forces, including communists and army officers; and the SPLA, which is by far the most important element militarily.

Before the conference opened on Saturday, the three main opposition leaders — Mr Mahdi, Mr Mirghani and

Colonel Garang — met President Mubarak, who stressed the "grave dangers" Sudan now faced.

The conference comes follows directly on the collapse of the latest round of IGAD-sponsored talks in Addis Ababa, between Khartoum and the SPLA.

Last year, in a "peace-from-within" deal with a group of southern leaders opposed to Col. Garang, Khartoum accepted in principle the heretofore heretical notion of southern secession.

But although secession is an option officially envisaged in the IGAD negotiations, it appeared to be one thing for Khartoum to grant it to its own protégés, quite another to concede it to a leader of Col. Garang's stature.

The Addis Ababa talks apparently broke down on an SPLA proposal to turn Sudan into a north-south confederation for a two-year transitional period, to be followed by a referendum on southern



Opposition leaders Sadiq al-Mahdi, left, and John Garang, centre, held their conference in Cairo. President Mubarak, right, told them that Sudan faced "grave dangers"

self-determination. Among other things, Khartoum objected to Col. Garang's ambitious definition of what constituted the south.

Evidently Cairo saw the talks' collapse as an opportunity to step in. Though generally on bad terms with Khartoum — which it has accused of sponsoring Islamist terrorists — it has been ambivalent about the NDA's military campaign, which has recently spread from the south to the



Opposition leaders Sadiq al-Mahdi, left, and John Garang, centre, held their conference in Cairo. President Mubarak, right, told them that Sudan faced "grave dangers"

Port Sudan and Kassala area of the north.

It has not been keen to throw its weight behind a movement which, far from seizing power in Khartoum, might dismember the country. Its nightmare is that control of the Nile's headwaters might fall into hostile hands.



Opposition leaders Sadiq al-Mahdi, left, and John Garang, centre, held their conference in Cairo. President Mubarak, right, told them that Sudan faced "grave dangers"

It is doubtful whether

Egypt's new-found support for the NDA adds up to unconditional acceptance of its aim of bringing down the Turabi regime, or to supplying it with the arms to do so.

"The important thing," said Omar Nuraidayem of the Umma party, "is that for the first time Cairo has now recognised the opposition. All we want, in any case, is political and diplomatic support. Egypt has great regional weight."

Egypt's support depends on assurances that the NDA will not countenance Sudan's break-up. Cairo needs such promises less from the NDA's northern members, who hold the same fears, than from Col. Garang.

His military strength makes him the key power-broker in Sudan, in respect of both the Khartoum government and his own NDA allies, who in private are deeply apprehensive of the ascendancy which he and the south might acquire in any new order.

In public at least, Egypt got what it wanted. On only his second visit to Cairo since he took command of the SPLA in 1983, Col. Garang said: "I want to assure everyone of our commitment to the unity of Sudan." But he added, it must be "on a new basis".

He probably read more into Cairo's intentions than was justified when he claimed that holding the NDA conference in Cairo rather than its usual Asmara headquarters would send "a signal to our soldiers on different fronts — in southern, eastern and western Sudan".

He added that Egypt had "practically and effectively" joined the Sudanese people's struggle against a regime which could not be "reformed or improved", only "removed".

The Khartoum newspaper al-Jumhuriya said the Turabi government, angered by Egypt's new stance, was threatening to retaliate with a conference of Egypt's "armed [opposition] groups".

## Doubts cast on 'jailbreak' of Hamas militant

Julian Borger in Jerusalem

**P**ALESTINIAN and Israeli troops set up road-blocks in the West Bank yesterday after it was announced that a leading Islamic militant had escaped from a Jericho jail, where he was being questioned by the Palestinians about the murder of the Hamas master bomb-maker Muhi al-Din Sharif.

Palestinian security officials said Imad Awadallah escaped on Saturday night, possibly with the help of guards. But human rights activists and the Hamas leadership questioned the official report, and voiced concern for the 29-year-old fugitive's safety.

An Israeli official said the Israeli security forces were sceptical about the escape. "During the cabinet meeting today it came out that our military believe that the circumstances of his escape are suspicious, and that he might have had some help from the Palestinian Authority," the official said.

Since his arrest on April 11, Mr Awadallah has repeatedly denied having a role in Sharif's murder. He was not charged, and claimed he was being tortured by Palestinian General Intelligence officers to get him to confess.

The death of Sharif, known as the Second Engineer, remains a mystery. His bullet-riddled corpse was found

lying beside a burning car on March 29 after an explosion blew apart a garage in the West Bank city of Ramallah. Sharif succeeded Yahya Ayyash, Hamas's original Engineer, who was assassinated by Israeli intelligence in 1996. The Second Engineer was widely accused of masterminding a string of suicide bombings in 1997.

According to the official Palestinian account, Mr Awadallah shot Sharif because Sharif was engaged in a power struggle with Mr Awadallah's elder brother, Adel — another Hamas leader — and ordered Chassan Adassi, a student, to destroy the evidence by planting a bomb in the garage. Mr Adassi has been held without charge in Jericho for more than four months.

Hamas and independent analysts have questioned this version, arguing that the evidence points to a joint operation by the Israeli and Palestinian intelligence services. Yesterday the Hamas founder, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, questioned whether Mr Awadallah had escaped, saying "How do I know this was not a way to eliminate him?"

Israeli troops were searching cars leaving Jericho, a Palestinian-run enclave in the Jordan Valley. The government's spokesman, David Bar-Ilan, said: "I am awaiting first hand information from our own intelligence agencies before commenting on this escape."



Women pray for peace at the Army of Victory church in Kinshasa, as rebels claimed to be within 100 miles of the capital and advancing on several fronts. PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID GUTTENFELDER

## Ports fall as rebels march on Kinshasa

Our correspondent in Kinshasa and Buchirya Mseteka in Matadi

**A**S REPORTS of Congolese rebel advances towards Kinshasa continued to reach the capital of former Zaire yesterday, the mood in the city remained mainly calm, despite the precipitate flight of most foreigners.

In a serious blow to President Laurent Kabila, Commander Dieudonné Kabengele said the rebels had taken control of the important ports of Matadi and Boma in the West, dismissing government claims that they were still in the hands of troops loyal to Mr Kabila. He said his troops were advancing on Mbanza-Ngulu, about 50 miles south-west of the capital.

"The advance towards Kinshasa is on several fronts. We

have been fighting in some parts on the way, but in other parts forces are rebelling and joining us," he said. "We should be in Kinshasa within a week to be sure."

Witnesses said, after flying with rebels to Matadi, that 300 rebel troops had flown into a large rebel supply base at Kilona and were moving overland to Matadi. Reinforcements are pouring in from the east," said one of the rebels. A Russian-built troop transporter landed yesterday. Military equipment had also arrived, they said.

Although the make up of the rebels remains unclear, people in Kinshasa are in little doubt about who they hold responsible. "We have been invaded by Rwanda," said François Kabuku, "and we must fight to kick them out. If I am given a weapon, then I will fight them myself."

A tide of xenophobia encouraged by the government

Kabila faces a new coalition of political forces

**C**ONGOLESE rebels trying to topple President Laurent Kabila formed a political coalition yesterday, the Rwandan News Agency reported.

The Congolese Democratic Coalition comprises more than 20 military and political leaders, the agency said in a report from Goma in eastern Congo, where the revolt

has swept through Kinshasa in the days since the army rebellion broke out in eastern Congo two weeks ago, precipitated by a presidential decree on July 28 ordering all Rwandans in the army to leave the country immediately.

There are many Tutsis living in Kinshasa, and because of their ethnic association with what is now commonly

seen as a Rwandan invasion, Congolese Tutsis have become the victims of a hate campaign. Tutsis have been pulled off the streets and out of their homes and imprisoned, a move that has met with the approval of the majority of Congolese in Kinshasa.

"I am happy that the Tutsis have been imprisoned," said

members include Bizima Karaha, Congo's former foreign minister. The military commanders were not named.

Meanwhile Mr Kabila was reported to have briefly visited the Angolan capital. He was seen arriving at Luanda's airport shortly after the Namibian president, Sam Nujoma, arrived. — Reuters

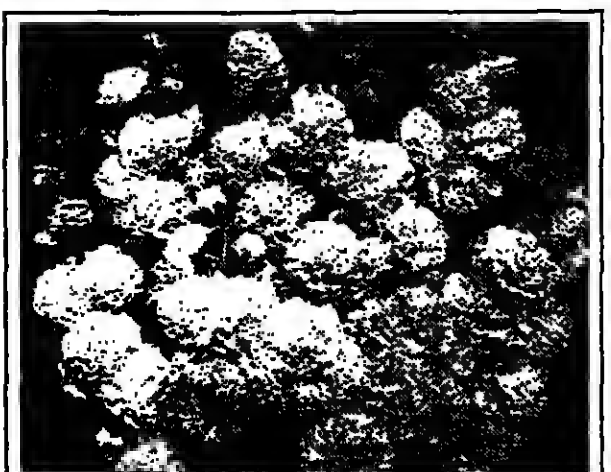
Interment was in the best interests of the country.

"This rebellion is not the same as last year," said Jean Mayamba. Referring to Mr Kabila's victorious arrival in Kinshasa last May, he said: "Last year we waited for him as if we were waiting for a funeral."

It remains to be seen how long the people of Kinshasa will continue to back a president who is yet to deliver on many of his promises of economic regeneration.

Pierre Mabanza, aged 32, a teacher, said he supported the manner in which Mr Kabila had dealt with the crisis to date, but added that he had not been paid for six months. "I will fight for Kabila out of love for my country, but I wish he would pay my salary."

Buchirya Mseteka is a correspondent for Reuters



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## Sri Lankans gamble on a night out

Susannah Price in Colombo

**A**MAL considers himself an expert on British horse racing. Like thousands of Sri Lankans, he spends his evenings glued to the racing beamed live from Britain.

"Every day I come to the betting shop," he said. "I read the form, put on a few bets. A couple of weeks ago I got lucky and picked a winner in the King George at Ascot."

In the Sporting Times betting shop on the Galle Road, crowds of punters queue at the cashiers, while television blare out the latest odds.

"The Sri Lankans love gambling and the English races are the best," said Amal, who refused to give

his surname in case his wife found out where he got to each evening.

Horse racing was banned in Sri Lanka more than 30 years ago — apart from the occasional holiday event in the central hill country and betting is also out-

lawed. But successive governments have turned a blind eye to the spiralling number of betting shops.

One of the directors of the Sporting Times, Mahendra Balasuriya, spends his time appearing in the plush VIP lounge. The minimum bet is \$3 (£2) and free food and cigarettes are available.

"My father owned a couple of horses when we had racing here, and then started accepting bets on English races," he said.

"Each race looks the same to me but I like to watch to see the English scenery and the people."

"Our selections are good, sometimes we even know better than the English"

The Sporting Times has nearly 100 shops and also publishes a daily newspaper providing all the information and the odds on the forthcoming races.

Back downstairs, Hamid is poring over his copy of the newspaper, which is covered in scribbled notes. "Of course we have to

study, even if we only spend one rupee we want to know why we are losing it," he said. "I think our selections are pretty good, sometimes we even know better than the English."

The punters thought the British races were popular because of the colonial heritage, but also because of the time difference.

The Australian ones are broadcast so early you have to get up at 6am," said Lal, another enthusiast, who had seen his horse romp home.

He has been gambling for 20 years and was taking a long-term view of his new riches.

Today I have won some money but I don't say I have won. I come here so often that I just say I am getting a percentage of my lost money back."

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Eve Boswell

# The sugar bush girl

THE career of singer Eve Boswell, who has died aged 76, spanned the eras of big band singing and early television specials of the 1950s, and of sentimental ballads and novelty pop hits. But although she is best remembered for such tempo numbers as *Sugarbush* and *Pickin' A Chicken*, her own musical preference was for the swing era styles of Peggy Lee and Dinah Shore.

She was born Eva Kalet in Budapest into a musical and show business family. Her aunt was vocal coach to the city's opera house, and her parents developed a music hall juggling act, which Eve joined as a teenager, playing piano and dancing. The act, *The Three Hugs*, came to Britain to work in 1938 and made a television appearance on the pilot service pioneered by the BBC.

At the outbreak of the second world war the family fled by being interned as enemy aliens and chose to take an offer of work with the Boswell Circus in South Africa. There Eve met and married the stepson of one of the owners, Trevor McIntosh. He encouraged her to develop her vocal talent and remained her manager until his death in 1970. By the mid-1940s, under the name Eve Boswell, she was broadcasting and recording with South Africa's leading dance band, led by Roy Martin.

Copies of her records reached London and so impressed Gerald, Britain's leading hand, that he cabled an offer of work with his orchestra. In June 1949 Eve made her debut as one of his four vocalists at Blackpool Winter Gardens in front of 6,000 dancers. She made an immediate impact, not least because Gerald made several Light Programme broadcasts each week and made numerous recordings. Boswell also brought a cosmopolitan glamour to the rather insular British music scene of the 1950s.

Her Hungarian and South African background set her apart, as did the convincing American accent of her singing, a contrast to the English tones of such rivals as Vera Lynn and Anne Shelton. After two years with Gerald, Boswell opted for a solo career, touring with variety shows, fulfilling numerous radio bookings and becoming a familiar face and voice on such BBC television entertainment shows as *Hit Parade*, *TV Children's Party* and *Off The Record*. When independent television was launched in 1955, she became the first female singer to be given her own series, 15-minute shows on ATV — for which she was paid £1,000 a programme.

During the early 1950s, the record industry was still orientated towards the fastest American hit songs of which British singers were expected to make "cover versions" to compete. Through the Gerald connection, Boswell was signed to EMI's Parlophone label and for most of the decade she released a new single every couple of months. While technically proficient, her cover versions were seldom commercially successful, principally because of the sheer quantity of rival discs. When Parlophone issued her version of Guy Mitchell's US hit *My Heart Cries For You* in 1951, it was one of 15 recordings of the song on the market.

Occasionally, an English singer would be given the first chance to record a new song and Boswell's opportunity came when she was sent a bouncy number from South Africa, *Sugarbush*, was issued in 1952 and soon became a favourite in dance halls and on radio. It also had the distinction of being banned from the BBC's *Music While You Work* following reports that assembly-line workers would



Eve Boswell... bringing a cosmopolitan glamour to the insular British music scene of the 1950s

join in its rhythmic chorus by hammering on the nearest surface. The success of the song brought Boswell her only appearance at the Royal Variety Performance, where in 1953 she was billed as "the Sugar Bush Girl".

Her second record success also had a South African connection. *Pickin' A Chicken* had won a song contest there, and with additional lyrics by an expatriate South African, Paddy Roberts, Boswell's spirited rendering reached number nine in the New Musical Express hit parade. The

song had been intended only as the B-side to an American television theme, *Blue Skies*, but *Pickin'* was enthusiastically plugged by disc jockey Jack Jackson and sold in considerable numbers.

Boswell herself was ambivalent about her hits and negotiated an agreement with George Martin at Parlophone that she could make LPs of orchestral ballads in return for continuing to record speculative singles aimed at the pop market. The resulting 1957 album, *Sentimental Rue*, was a highly creditable collection of American-style ballad singing, complete with opulent string arrangements by Reg Owen.

Although she made more recordings for Decca in the 1950s, Eve Boswell, like most of her contemporaries, was sidelined in a record market increasingly dominated by younger acts such as Cliff Richard and The Beatles. But she continued to appear in variety, and developed a new career as a vocal coach for budding recording artists.

After the death of Trevor McIntosh, Boswell returned to South Africa, where she married radio producer Henry Holloway and opened a singing school. She made her final British appearance in 1989 on a short tour, which included a Radio 2 concert and an impromptu appearance with a sales band led by her son, Michael McIntosh.

Dave Laing

Eve Boswell (Eva Kalet), singer, born May 11 1922; died August 14 1998

Robert Tudur Jones

# For God and Wales

ROBERT Tudur Jones, who has died aged 77, was one of Wales's foremost academic historians, a life-long Plaid Cymru supporter and a Christian scholar of wide repute.

His first major work, the monumental *Congregationalism in England, 1662-1962*, along with its companion volume, *Homes Annibynwyr Cymru* (1966), which traced the history of independence in Wales from the Commonwealth to the mid-20th century, secured his reputation, and further works on the protestant reformation, the puritans, and innumerable aspects of the Nonconformist tradition, put him in the front rank of Welsh academics.

Tudur Jones was born in Llanystumdwy, Cricieth — the boyhood home of David Lloyd George — the son of a railwayman. Although they soon moved to the anglicised seaside town of Rhyl, the family retained firm links with their former locality and upheld its strong Welsh language and Nonconformist culture. Tudur Jones excelled academically at Rhyl County School (where he struck up a life-long friendship with the novelist and fellow Welsh-nationalist Emrys Humphreys) and his growing sense of vocation to Christian ministry led him in 1939 to the University College of North Wales, Bangor.

He took a first in philosophy in 1942, a double distinction in 1943, and completed his DPhil at Mansfield College, Oxford, before spending two semesters at the Protestant Faculty of the University of Strasbourg. He was ordained in 1948 at Selion, the Welsh Congregationalist church in Aberystwyth.

In 1950 Tudur Jones was appointed professor of church history at Bala-Bangor College, the Congregationalist seminary which formed part of the university's theological faculty. He was principal from 1965 until the merger of Bala-Bangor and the Aberystwyth Memorial College created the United Congregational College in 1968. His most enduring scholarly contribution will probably be the two-volume study of religion and society in Victorian and Edwardian Wales, *Faith and the Crisis of a Nation* (Ffydd ac Argyfwng Cenedl) in 1961, which contains a uniquely perceptive analysis of the religious revival of 1804-5.

Tudur Jones stood as Plaid Cymru parliamentary candi-

dates in Anglesey during the 1950s, and on different occasions edited its newspapers *Y Ddraig Goch* and *The Welsh Nation*. A short volume, *The Desire of Nations* (1975), elucidated his philosophy of humane and warm-hearted cultural nationalism. His uncompromising Free Churchmanship was always tempered by a gracious catholicity, which appreciated all that was positive in other Christian traditions. He served the International Congregational Fellowship as chairman between 1981-5, was elected moderator of the Free Church Federal Council of England and Wales in 1988-9 and president of the Union of Welsh Independents in 1988-7.

Tudur Jones's commanding personality, his unyielding adherence to what were, for some, unpopular theological and political convictions, combined with sheer intellectual brilliance, made him an intimidating adversary. Yet there were many in Wales, especially between the mid-1960s and 1980s, who were drawn to a radical Christian commitment through his teaching, preaching and writing, and he did much to form educated public opinion in Welsh-speaking Wales. Away from public issues, students and colleagues appreciated his kindness.

His appointment in 1989 to an honorary professorship in the School of Theology and Religious Studies at Bangor afforded him immense satisfaction until his retirement in 1996. A volume of historical essays, *The Power of the Word and the Flame of the Faith* (Glynn Gair a Fflam y Ffydd), was already in the press when he died.

Tudur Jones married Gwendolyn Edwards, a fellow Bangor student, in 1948, and had two daughters and three sons. All three sons entered the Congregationalist ministry though Rhys, the eldest, predeceased him.

D Deipoll Morgan

Robert Tudur Jones, academic and Nonconformist theologian, born June 28, 1921; died July 23, 1998

## Letters

**Tim Hilton writes:** The superlative work of the art historian Michael Kitson (*Obituary, August 11*) is preserved in obscure places. Researchers in the Courtauld Institute's photograph library will often find — handwritten in pencil on the mount of some 17th century Italian painting — a tentative attribution. The hand is often Anthony Blunt's, more often Michael's.

The connoisseur's eye preceded the art historian's explanations. In 1969, for instance, he recognised that the *St Proximus* (1655 (private collection, America) was by the young Vermeer. Thus Kitson opened new inquiry about the intellectual formation of a great artist.

He was a wonderful influence at the Courtauld in the late 1950s and early 1960s, the institute's best years. He understood that art history was about to join the contemporary world and would consider any new idea. All his writings are valuable. I think his masterpiece was a review of the Poussin exhibition at the Louvre and the Royal Academy, published in the *Burlington Magazine* in January 1968. It was both a salute to Blunt, the former Poussin expert, and an art historian's declaration that we must believe only that which honesty and scholarship allows us to believe.

**Timothy Rogers writes:** Your obituary of Michael Kitson draws attention to the influence upon him of the way English was studied at Cambridge. Kitson read English at King's, where two of his contemporaries, Francis Haskell and the late Michael Jaffé, also became distinguished art historians.

An important common influence was George Rylands, then director of studies in English. He supervised in rooms in Old Lodge, where, in his 96th year, he still lives. The walls had been decorated by Carrington and closely hung with pictures where not lined with books. The ghosts of Lytton Strachey and Virginia Woolf were ever present. But Rylands was also alive in the present. His teaching was by suggestion rather than direction; opinions, however wild, were sympathetically considered, and progress was a shared if guided journey of discovery. The qualities of his teaching were those I discern also in the reports of Michael Kitson's pupils.

Paul Flamand

# Power behind a free French voice

THE death of the French publisher Paul Flamand at the age of 69 coincides with the appearance of a book about Saint Therese of Lisieux by a Jesuit psychoanalyst, Denis Vasse, published by the Editions du Seuil. Flamand's company, it was an appropriate coincidence.

That a scientist and a member of a religious order should examine the case of Saint Therese in terms both of her neurosis and of her faith reflects the intellectual, independent Catholicism that Flamand established at Seuil — as were the autobiographical writings of Saint Therese which Vasse analyses.

Paul Flamand was always reluctant to speak about himself and he never gave interviews. His approval of Bernard Shaw's remark that he who wrote an autobiography always told untruths, not unconvincingly, but deliberately.

He was born in the Cherents and went into the jewellery business. Active in a group of young Catholic intellectuals, it was amongst them that he met the publicity agent Henri Eyraud, who had founded Seuil in 1935, but was by then at a loss what to do with his creation. Thus it

was, aged 23, that Flamand found himself running the literary production of the publishing house, whilst Jean Bardet (aged 27) became the administration and commercial director.

Before and during the second world war, Flamand had been active in youth organisations, including the scouting movement led by Guy Larigaudie, who was killed in France's 1940 campaign. In 1941 he became a member of the Vichy-approved cultural group, Esprit. France. Some of its members soon aroused Vichy disapproval because of their Christian

democrat and anti-fascist principles, particularly the leading Catholic Emmanuel Mounier, a friend of Flamand. They were both expelled from Jeune France, Mounier being arrested by the Vichy police in 1942. After his release, Flamand and others made secret plans for the revue *Esprit* — which had been banned by Vichy — to re-appear as a publication of the Editions du Seuil.

WITH his publishing house, Esprit, both located in the Rue Jacob, Flamand became a leading figure in French intellectual life. He showed his independence by publishing *Teilhard de Chardin's* works, which were very profitable — at a time when his vision of a technological ideology was causing disquiet in the Vatican. There were few controversies in which Flamand was not involved via his publications, and he always refused to try and fix any agreement on his authors.

Thus, in the debate over Soviet concentration camps, the Seuil published Marguerite Buber-Neumann's *Voyage to Siberia*, which was bitterly attacked in *Esprit* because it drew a parallel between the Nazi and the Soviet systems of justice.

Many shades of Catholicism were represented by the directors of the Editions du Seuil and Esprit. It was said,

with some truth, that the Rue Jacob institutions were the home of left-wing Catholicism. But Flamand saw to it that protestants and Jews occupied positions in his organisation. One atheist on his staff, Francis Jeanson, created a scandal in 1956 with a book supporting Algerian nationalists and attacking the French colonial war.

In 1960 Flamand supervised the appearance of a new review, *Tel Quel*, edited by Philippe Sollers, which examined new intellectual trends such as structuralism and Maoism. Other series of publications followed, devoted to history, psychology and philosophy.

When Flamand retired in 1979, the Editions du Seuil was one of Europe's leading publishing houses. With 30 per cent of the capital being owned by its staff, it was an example in other ways. Naturally, Flamand had his failures as a publisher — he had, for instance, rejected one of Samuel Beckett's early manuscripts. But there are those who would say that this was not a disaster.

Paul Flamand was predeceased by his wife. He leaves five children, including two sons who work at the Editions du Seuil.

Douglas Johnson

Paul Flamand, publisher, born January 25, 1909; died August 4, 1998



Paul Flamand... with his publishing partner at Editions du Seuil, Jean Bardet (right)

Claudia Flanders

# Access for all to the open road

IN 1987 Claudia Flanders, who has died of brain cancer aged 65, founded Tripscope, the national travel advisory centre for people with disabilities, which provides free phone advice to callers needing to overcome handicaps to make a trip.

In the 1970s she had created the post of adviser on disability to the National Bus Company. For 15 years she served on the statutory Disabled Persons' Transport Advisory Committee, which directs ministers' attention to mobility questions.

A starting point for Claudia's expertise came on New Year's Eve 1969, when she married the writer and entertainer Michael Flanders, who

had used a wheelchair after contracting poliomyelitis. For much of the 1960s she toured with her husband and Donald Swann in their shows, *At the Drop of a Hat* and *At the Drop of Another Hat*. She was wife and mother, but also technical manager and creative consultant.

MICHAEL Flanders died in 1975. Drawing on what she had learned during her touring years, Claudia became an expert in making transport accessible to disabled people.

The daughter of writer Hope Hale Davis and journalist Claud Cockburn, she was raised in New England by her mother and stepfather,

Robert Gorham Davis. After graduating from Smith College, in the 1950s she worked at the United Nations and then at Radio Free Europe.

Claudia was famous for her insight, compassion, generosity — and exuberant personality — and exuberant personality. She was an accomplished pianist and a versatile linguist. In 1981 she was awarded an OBE for her services to disabled people. She is survived by two daughters — Laura and Stephanie — six brothers and sisters, and her mother.

Sir Peter Baldwin

Claudia Flanders, campaigner, born February 11, 1933; died June 25, 1998



Flanders... exuberant

## A Country Diary

THE LAKE DISTRICT: My staunch companion in a lifetime of mountain days has, with shattering suddenness, passed on. Before me is a photograph of him, aged five and a half, standing by the summit cairn on Conistone Old Man. The picture was taken by his grandfather, my father, who Robin had taken up the mountain. A very sound and knowledgeable mountaineer, he read maps as easily as other people read books or newspapers, with him you never got lost. When he was only 18, he and I traversed the Cullin Ridge in Skye together — he was probably the youngest person to have done the ridge at that time. Earlier this

year, Robin went on his first expedition to the Himalayas, to climb a peak of nearly 22,000 feet. Out of a party of 10 only four reached the summit. Robin, the oldest member, taking charge when the professional leader had to drop out with altitude sickness. He and I had enjoyed hundreds of wonderful days in the Lake District, the Scottish hills, the Alps, the Yorkshire fells, the Northern Pennines. And, during the last three years, he had taken his wife to all the Lake District two-thousand summits and, eventually, to every summit in England. They were building a house in Kendal where they were planning to retire to devote the rest of their lives to the hills. Sadly, this is not to be.

A HARRY GRIFFIN

## Birthdays

**Jim Courier**, tennis player, 28; **Robin Cousins**, former ice skater, 41; **Robert De Niro**, actor, 55; **Ted Hughes**, OM, poet laureate, 68; **John Humphrys**, broadcaster, 55; **Elizabeth Llewellyn Smith**, principal, St Hilda's College, Oxford, 64; **Ian McAllister**, chairman and managing director, Ford Motor Company, 55; **Seamus Mallon**, SDLP MP, deputy first minister, Northern Ireland, 62; **Prof Sir Leslie Martin**, architect, 90; **George Melly**, jazz singer, 72;

**Sir Vidiaadhar (V S) Naipaul**, novelist, 66; **Maureen O'Hara**, actress, 77; **Nelson Piquet**, racing driver, 45; **Rebecca Posner**, Emeritus Professor of the Romance Languages, University of Oxford, 69; **Sue Robertson**, chief executive, London Arts Board, 48; **Barry Sheerman**, Labour MP, 48; **Richard Stott**, former editor, *Daily Mirror*, 55; **Kirk Stevens**, snooker player, 40; **Guillermo Vilas**, tennis player, 46; **Prof Michael Wise**, geographer, 60; **Sir Tony Wrigley**, master, Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, 67.

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Take this copy of the Guardian to the relevant box office and get two tickets for the price of one to the following shows (subject to availability):

- The Machine Gunners** by Robert Westall  
The award winning novel became a million copy best seller and classic television series. Now it's a musical, performed by South Tyneside College of Performing Arts with music by John Miles. The Observer Assembly, 2.30pm - 10 pm
- Raydon Kan - Dazed and Confused**  
New Zealand's top-selling comedian. Film actor, TV pitchman for a bank, and author, Raydon's intelligent vulnerability has a hit at Melbourne's Caldera's Glided Ballroom, 7.30pm - 5 pm
- Car Maintenance, Explosives and Loves**  
Donna Jackson's rock-fuelled explosive night of theatre with a car-blowing, face-welding woman from Australia! Pleasance Two, 11.00pm - 5 pm

For full details of shows at the Observer Assembly, the Caldera's Glided Ballroom and the Pleasance phone 0897 501387 for a free GASP brochure (each costs £2 per minute).

**The Guardian**  
**The Observer**



# Comment Omagh massacre

They'll tell you it's about freedom.



Who are the Real IRA? Where do they fit into the republican movement and, crucially, how can they be stopped?

## The killers should be hammered. Perhaps Gerry Adams could help

Kevin Toolis



**O** MAGH is a nationalist town. The vast majority of the victims killed as they simply walked the streets of their own home town. Killed almost certainly by a handful of dissident republicans who also regard Omagh as their home town. Ironically, a leading spokesperson for those dissident republicans is a former Sinn Féin councillor, Francis Mackey, who represents part of the Omagh district.

The killers will do everything in their power to evade their responsibility and blame the RUC for not following the bombers' instructions. But phoning in bomb warnings is not like ordering a taxi. Rightly no one will believe them. It was republicans and republicans alone who brought death and carnage to Omagh on Saturday.

The republicans behind the bombing are almost certainly linked to the Real IRA, a group identified with a former IRA quartermaster from Dundalk and his political organisation's mouthpiece, the 32 County Sovereignty Committee. The Real IRA's heartland lies in the border areas, South Armagh and County Louth in the republic. Their organisation is numbered in tens not hundreds but it would be a mistake to

underestimate their passive support.

Their immediate origins lie in a minor split in the Provisionals in Donegal in October last year when the quartermaster and a handful of followers split away, unhappy with the decision of Adams and McGuinness to choose the constitutional road — taking seats in the Stormont Assembly.

But their antecedents are far older than that and reach back to the fountainhead of the IRA itself, Padraig Pearse and the Easter Rising of 1916.

It was Pearse with his doctrine of using and dreaming of self-sacrifice who injected a virulent strain of violent futility into Irish politics. It did not matter that the rising was incoherent, disorganised and doomed to failure from its very inception. What was important was the act of resistance itself and the notion that blood and death, even your own, would somehow carry the mission forward. Dying for Ireland violently became a Holy Grail. Killing people who got in the way of your dream of a united Ireland was just a necessary sacrifice of the war. Ideologically it is not far from Dublin 1916 to Omagh 1998.

In the end Pearse calculated rightly: that the stupidity and retribution of the British in lining him up in front of a firing squad would carry him

through. His blood sacrifice was an inspiration to countless other Irish gunmen to take up arms and shoot policemen for Ireland's sake. We must be careful at this moment of outrage not to make the same mistake.

It was Pearse's philosophy of the gun that for 30 years underpinned the Provisionals' violent campaign of terrorism against the Northern Irish state. The Provisionals under the leadership of Adams and McGuinness have bitten on the bullet of political pragmatism and laid aside

**Pearse, with his doomed uprising, injected a virulent new strain of violent futility into Irish politics**

guns for political argument. But they do not own the political copyright on violent Irish republicanism. Pearse's mission has been taken up by the Real IRA.

For the Real IRA it does not matter that 30 years of bombing and shooting did not achieve a united Ireland. It does not matter that the Real IRA is tiny and the prospects

hopeless. And it does not matter that murdering people is wrong and pointless. Like Pearse, "resistance" by blowing up border towns is somehow enough.

In May of this year, the Real IRA had the funeral of their first martyr, Ronan McLoughlin — shot dead by the Irish police during an abortive bank robbery to raise money for arms.

He was buried with full republican honours in Glasnevin Cemetery in Dublin feet from where Pearse first called for more blood to be shed. The Guardian later published a long account of his life and the influences on it.

I spoke at length to his relatives and to Bernadette Sands McKevitt, a key spokesperson for the 32 County Sovereignty Committee. Spoke is probably the wrong word. I listened as Sands-McKevitt went through a familiar self-justifying series of arguments about the future of Ireland, none of which were connected with the political reality of Ireland.

When I asked what Ronan McLoughlin died for I was simply told "Ireland". When I asked what was the point of more bombs, Sands-McKevitt shrugged her shoulders and said there would always be bombs as long as there was "English rule". When asked about the democratic will of the Irish people as outlined

in referendums on the Good Friday Agreement she shrugged again and talked about the "Men of 1916" and the fact that they did not have a mandate.

The Real IRA can, in the words of the IRA informer Sean O'Callaghan, be put out into the street and given a good political kicking in front of the nationalist community of Ireland by their fellow Irishmen. They have shed blood on Omagh in a terrible fashion and massively damaged their own cause. Now is the time to extract a full measure of political revenge.

Kevin Toolis is the author of *Rebel Hearts*, a study of the IRA

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## Fatal blow or a last throw?

Lord Holme



**A** S THE horror of Saturday's bombing sinks in, the question is whether the mass slaughter in Omagh represents a mortal blow to the already precarious peace process, as its perpetrators undoubtedly hope, or whether it will ultimately be seen as an unsuccessful last throw by those whom history has left behind.

The answer to that question lies in the reactions of the key players over the next week or so.

At the visceral level of an eye for an eye, will the able and responsible leadership of the former Loyalist paramilitaries be able to restrain their more enraged colleagues from responding in kind with the traditional tit-for-tat terror which has disfigured life in Northern Ireland for so long? It is possible, but it will not be easy for the likes of David Ervine, Gary McKinnel and David Adams to do so.

A lot will depend on what happens on the wider shores of unionism. There the stormy petrels of the DUP are already aloft beating their wings. Dr Paisley and his colleagues have been asking for a return match on the referendum.

They have never been reluctant to raise the temperature in Northern Ireland to boiling point — even if they are adept at then standing back and wringing their hands at the spilled milk, and spilled blood — which inevitably ensues. But now they are playing for even higher stakes. They believe it is within their grasp to split moderate unionism, in the shape of the Ulster Unionist Party, and in the process destroy the leadership of David Trimble.

Much now rests on the shoulders of Northern Ireland's first Minister-elect. He dealt well with Drumcree, given that the Orangemen were camped in his own constituency; he has established a fine working partnership with Seamus Mallon, his nationalist deputy.

He has been ready to use the moral authority of his referendum mandate to the point where a less sectarian future for Northern Ireland seemed possible.

Yet David Trimble is desperately vulnerable to those who would play the Orange card on prisoner release and other issues. Dr Paisley and his ilk: members of his own party such as the ambitious Jeffrey Donaldson; and even some Conservative spokesmen who have seemed ready to score points than to imple-

ment the Belfast Agreement in full and speedily.

Paradoxically Mr Trimble now needs help badly from the nationalist side if he is not to seem naive to understandably fearful and suspicious unionists. Will the Taoiseach, Bertie Ahern, track down and arrest every member of the so-called Real IRA? He can lay his hands on? He has the authority of the Irish referendum to do so.

Even more crucially, what will the leadership of Sinn Féin and the provisional IRA now do? They have it in their direct power to reassure the nervous in Northern Ireland and build on the Good Friday settlement, or they could revert to the a laism that preserves a double standard of non-violence for even romanticising "green" guns and bombs.

It is true that Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness have managed for the first time to condemn terrorism rather than merely regretting it. That must have taken courage, given Irish history, but it is still not nearly enough.

They should now be prepared to exercise the same discipline behind the Sinn Féin and IRA's new strategy of political progress by peaceful means as they did previously behind the tactics of armed struggle.

They have been ready enough to order knee-capping for minor deviations from their iron rule in local communities. Will they now work with the security services, Irish not British, to ensure that the murderers of the "Real IRA" are arrested? They will certainly know better than anyone else how to find them.

**E**VEN more fundamentally they will merely be content to relish the possible split in unionism and the fatal weakening of David Trimble or will they act now to reassure all those decent people, who yearn for peace but fear the worst, by acting definitively to end for good the possibility of any resort to arms, and do this between now and the beginning of September.

A gesture is required from Gerry Adams in the next two weeks.

If he is ready to play a full part in the government of a peaceful Northern Ireland he will make that gesture.

If not, gloom and suspicion will spread and a destructive escalation in violence could grow.

Tony Blair has not put a foot wrong in Northern Ireland so far, but over the next days he and Mo Mowlam should be bending all their efforts, with the help of the Taoiseach, to persuade legitimate republicanism to move forward from being passive hit players in the initiatives of others to becoming the writers of a new and better chapter of Irish history.

Lord Holme is the Liberal Democrat parliamentary spokesman on Northern Ireland.

## The real deal

Eamonn McCann



**M** AINSTREAM commentators in Ireland already had a settled view of the Real IRA before Saturday's bomb in Omagh blasted the organisation onto the front pages. The conventional wisdom was well-expressed by the respected nationalist newspaper the Derry Journal, commenting on the car-bombing of Banbridge on August 1 — an attack which followed the exact pattern of Omagh, except that the warning telephone call had accurately pinpointed the location of the device, ensuring that the area was cleared, despite property

damage running to millions.

The Real IRA, declared the Journal (August 4) "represent nobody". They are "renegades, yesterday's men... with no agenda except to keep violence an ingredient in our society... No policies, no political philosophy, no contribution to make to the ideals of Republicanism as expressed in the 1916 Proclamation".

This tendency to dismiss the Real IRA as kill-crazy thugs with no politics misses the point. Or at least it misses their point.

It's all in the name. The Real IRA sees itself as representing the authentic republican tradition. The main purpose of the military campaign, of which the Omagh bombing was part, has been to assert its title to the mantle cast off as they see it, by Martin McGuinness and Gerry Adams when they signed up to an agreement which leaves part of Ireland under British rule.

Contrary to the view expressed by David Trimble and others, McGuinness and Adams, far from trying "to have their cake and eat it" — entering the Assembly while con-

niving at a continuing armed struggle — were the political targets of the Omagh bomb.

This consideration makes it even more difficult for the leadership of mainstream republicanism to accede to demands to declare that "the war is over", or for the Provisional IRA to begin decommissioning weaponry or to co-operate in a security crackdown on their former associates.

Any move of that sort would, in the perspective of "pure" republicanism, amount to renunciation not just of the movement's core value but of its very raison d'être. It would signal withdrawal from the exact ideological territory being contested by the Real IRA, and lend plausibility to dissident groups' claim on the tradition going back to 1916. The Republic's Foreign Affairs Minister, Liz O'Donnell, one of the few Southern politicians with a grasp of ideology, signalled her alertness to this in her comment on the Omagh bombing: "We did a deal with republicanism when we cut a deal with Gerry Adams and Martin McGuinness. (The Real IRA) does not represent

republicanism." However, an endorsement of the credentials of McGuinness and Adams from that quarter is unlikely to impress those behind the Omagh outrage.

They will be more attuned to history — to, for example, the Derry Journal now saying about the Real IRA what it said in 1980, years ago when it occupied the GPO and instigated a bloody birth to the modern republican tradition were, the April 1916 editorial writer insisted, "not really Sinn Féin as a compact force", but "desperate characters... without sufficient education to gauge correctly the dire consequences of their criminal, senseless, suicidal, deplorable endeavour".

The 1916 proclamation hadn't been put to the people, much less massively endorsed in a referendum. The rising, and the subsequent war of independence, were undertaken in the name of the people, certainly, but not at the democratic behest of the people.

The IRA has seen itself ever since as defending the existing republic thus proclaimed. In this perspective, to sign up to a settlement which might be

regarded by many as a major step towards the ultimate objective, but falling short of its actual attainment, appears not as an advance but as retreat.

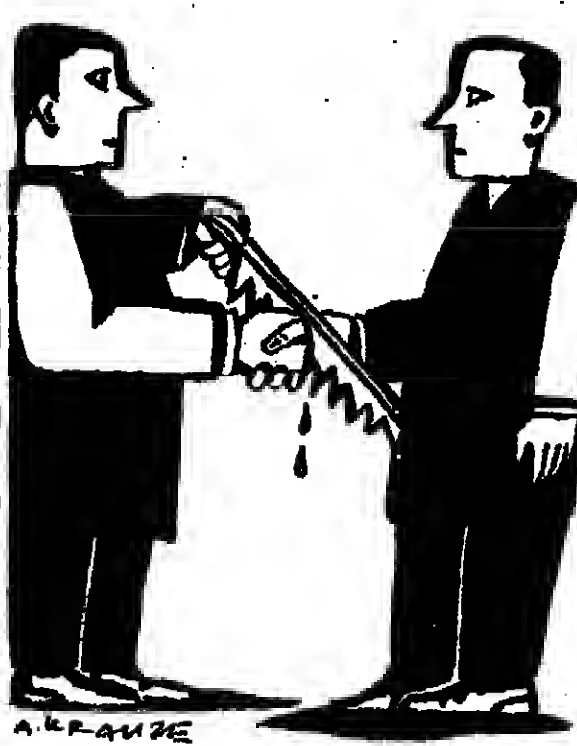
This is the context in which every compromise by a republican leadership since 1921 has led to charges of treason, and, usually, to bloody feud. It may seem mad-cap and semi-mystical. But it is this view of themselves and of their project which has provided the republican movement with its sense of legitimacy through the years and sustained it through periods when there was little to give it success.

However, while the Real IRA leadership may have a more plausible claim to historical authenticity, they may have misread actually-existing republicanism. The movement led by McGuinness and Adams differs in character and composition from the classical republicanism espoused by their current rivals for the mantle of history, Sinn Féin and the IRA didn't emerge as a major force in the North in the 1970s through a mass conversion to the republican ideal in the ghettos of Belfast and Derry, but from

the civil rights movement. Cryptically put, when young, urgent people who had come onto the streets with met with water cannon, CS gas, internment and finally, as on Bloody Sunday, death at the hands of the security forces, many drew the conclusion that the best way to hit back was through armed struggle. Republicanism became the vehicle through which raging anger and the impulse to revolt came to be expressed. Hallowed ideology was a minor factor in this development compared with hard experience. The pragmatism of the Sinn Féin and IRA leaderships which appalled those who finally broke away is rooted in this factor.

This halfhearted feature of the political and ideological landscape may — along with the visceral revulsion at the cruelty of Saturday's bomb — ensure that, this time, entitlement to be regarded as the "real" IRA won't be decisive in determining the outcome of the latest republican split.

Eamonn McCann, a political commentator, is a former civil rights activist.



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## Murder in Omagh

They died for May's vote

SATURDAY'S massacre in the market is different from what has gone before in Northern Ireland's bloody recent history. For the deaths and injuries and the site of the attack there are precedents in kind if not number. Ulster has before now lived the wantonness of the destruction in Omagh, the sheer accidents of place and space that put one family member nearer the blast than another. Whether people were herded together to be slaughtered as a result of a terrorist plot or because of murderous incompetence on the part of the bombers may be discovered, but again, sadly, 28 years do offer prior examples.

What surely is new is the object of terror. Saturday's bomb was not directed against a "British statelet", or any other cant phrase of decadent Irish irredentism. The victims were citizens of something new. What was created as a result of May's vote is an embryonic, inclusive political entity. Unionist-led, its deputy leader is a Catholic from

the province's leading nationalist party. Crucially, to it also belongs Sinn Féin, the party of the republican insurgency. Thus Gerry Adams's response to this outrage was significant. There's always with Mr Adams a suspicion of equivocation in the most unequivocal of his declarations; none the less his words have to count as evidence that he too now considers himself to reside inside the organism born on Good Friday this year. The die-hard republicans who carried out the attack — if the Chief Constable's suspicions are borne out — may inadvertently have further reinforced the identification of Messrs Adams and McGuinness with the new set-up. Will the Loyalist paramilitaries see that the structure in which they too have invested might as a result be strengthened and legitimated? David Trimble, the province's first minister, was criticised for his hesitation at Drumcree. Yet further tests of his leadership lie ahead as he seeks to persuade Unionism that Omagh must be an opportunity to build and strengthen the fledgling assembly and executive.

To all those saying so bitterly and so understandably during the past 36 hours "some peace", Mr Trimble and his Unionist colleagues have with conviction to muster the reply: it is because the new arrangements promise so much that they are sub-

ject to such desperate assault. And this outrage will not be the last.

"We cannot let the men of violence win," said Seamus Mallon — in the spring after the assassination of a Protestant and a Catholic by Loyalists in Poyntzpass. Reaction to those deaths may have contributed to the spirit of Easter. Similarly the burning to death of three children in Portadown a month ago may, in discrediting the extremes of Orangism, have served the cause of peace. Omagh is different because all those willing to talk, move forward, to behave politically, are now inside the camp. Those outside are pariahs, the also-rans of modern Irish history. They have no analysis, no theory, no intelligible ends. The only response is to form ranks against them.

But first the security lessons from Omagh must be absorbed. In peace the burden of policing may have to become more not less onerous. The intelligence challenge facing the RUC and the security forces in Ulster is greater, the smaller in size the terrorist formations become. The Republic's political class and police, too, must ask searching questions about safe havens for killers south of the border. "Serial killers", President Mary McAleese called them: if so, the Garda must be permanently mobilised, in Dundalk and elsewhere to root out those nests where, it appears, the renegades find suc-

cour. After Omagh, can Gerry Adams and Sinn Féin continue to play the decommisioning game long? They now share responsibility to hold up the flimsy tent that is democratic, consensual Northern Irish politics. During the next few days it has to survive a hurricane.

## Testimony time

You're safe to tell the truth, Bill

IT'S SEX, lies and videolinks on the Potosi today. But nothing that Bill Clinton says to the grand jury — vehement denial, partial admission, a full monty confession — will alter the paradoxical political fact of Zippertage. It does not matter much. What happens to the American stock market and economy (with profound consequences for the rest of us) does not turn on the president's veracity. There will, moreover, be no impeachment, whatever prosecutor Starr eventually reports to Congress. Damage has been done, that's for sure. In his zeal to injure this president, Kenneth Starr has polluted the American political and judicial systems; but he has also reduced his own effectiveness as inquisitor-in-chief. The Republicans are worried and, at this stage in the presidential cycle, weak. At worst

they will extemporise. The president, truthful or not today, will see his term out.

There is no point now in debating whether the Paula Jones suit should have been prosecuted (the Supreme Court erred); likewise the degradation of the office of special prosecutor (not for the first time, partisan spirit has got the better of concern for due and proportionate process). Once grand juries are sitting, the truth matters, even about trivialities. The integrity of judicial process is a key part of the American way even when, as here, it has become a kind of feeder of cues for a prurient show masterminded by the media in which — Hillary was right — right-wing enemies of liberalism are significant players.

The president has it in his power to end the freak show. Middle as well as sophisticated America wants it to stop: for the president to make some admission, perhaps even acknowledging that he lied in the Jones depositions. But that wish is child of a belief that he and Monica did have sex. Only she and he (and perhaps ultimately FBI laboratory technicians) know. In a more adult, less partisan American their knowledge would have remained private. Now it has to come out. In his testimony Bill Clinton can mark the beginning of the end of his far from successful presidency by conscripting the truth.

## Letters to the Editor

### Universities and clones

I'M sorry that Diana Warwick (Letters, August 14) perceives universities as being training camps for jobs, and not academic communities where art and science are explored and exalted. Yet Ms Warwick is right, of course: in the 20th century, universities still are, in fact, no more than places where the increase of individuals' money-earning qualities is facilitated. She is "right" in the same way that Margaret Thatcher was "right" when she claimed there was no such thing as society. Peter Ostrowski, Wickford, Essex.

I WAS heart-warming to see the five-column obituary of Benny Waters (August 14), considering that you probably did not print five words about him when he was alive and playing his superb music. During the past two weeks some of the greatest living creative musicians (jazz players one and all) have been playing in repertory at Pizza Express, Soho. The Guardian has not printed one word, let alone five, about any of their performances. But I suppose they too will get extensive obituaries when the time comes. Stanley Clineham, London.

IT is claimed that Dolly the cloned sheep will be kidnapped (A glorious summer for discontent, August 15). Yes, but how will they know they got the right one? Ian Anderson, London.

I WAS delighted by your letters on pornography (August 15), without exception they showed more good sense than either of your columnists. I was delighted by Jane Easton's careful navigation between Charlotte Raven's Old Mids-andry and Kate Taylor's New Lase-ismness, but why did Claire Rayner use the pseudonym "Peter Tatchell" when banding out her usual dollop of sound advice? John Rogers, Bristol.

GOING by reports from Russia of financial difficulties, a bloodthirsty mafia and other problems, it won't be long before the whole place goes communist. Mike Mitchell, Manchester.

HAVE searched for any reference to your Birthday column (August 13) describing Bernard Manning as a "comedian". I presume you will be printing the necessary correction soon? Ray Bolden, Hastings, E Sussex.

## Name the men of terror

THE dreadful carnage at Omagh was obviously intended to derail any future dialogue between the leadership of the communities in Northern Ireland.

Coming as it does so close after the overwhelming vote of the people of Ireland, North and South, to accept compromise and an agreed solution to the troubles, John Hume's description of these bombers as fascists is wholly accurate.

This act was perpetrated by blinkered ideologues with no humanity, no shred of respect for the democratic process.

As the decent people of Omagh bury their dead, care for the maimed and injured, and try to piece together their jobs and businesses, their neighbours must ask themselves some serious questions.

In particular, they must consider whether the long tradition of not informing on the remaining self-appointed "protectors" of their communities is still morally defensible in the light of the recent election results.

It is only when ordinary people are prepared to support democracy by isolating the rump element of fascists and psychopaths amongst them that this murder and mayhem will stop. Sing, for the love of God, before it is too late to stop the murder of another innocent. Tony White, Birmingham.

HISTORY repeats itself once again in Ireland, so let it do so completely. When the Treaty settlement was made, the incoming Free State

government set about ending the violence. The names of the Provisional's dissenters, who set off the Omagh bomb, must be available, to nationalists/republicans/Sinn Féin, who participated in the Good Friday agreement.

There is now an opportunity, for those committed to its implementation, to show the same courage, statesmanship and dedication, in assisting in the search for, and the bringing to book, of the perpetrators of this latest outrage, as was done in the 1920s.

Rehabilitation to violence of this kind, may be difficult to break, but break it must, and those who have committed themselves to making the agreement work, endorsed overwhelmingly by the will for the people, must prevail, if the process towards peace is to be assured.

Samuel Boyd, Cwmbran, Gwent.

WHOEVER planted so many innocents knew that with so little happening on the home front during the holiday season, the outrage, whatever the size of the casualty list, would be guaranteed to receive blanket coverage in the papers.

Yet surely it matters less who perpetrated this iniquity, and more that it has been condemned by all those, including Sinn Féin, who have an electoral mandate to pursue the current peace initiative through democratic means.

Even if this small minority of disaffected republicans — if such are responsible — are caught and imprisoned it is unlikely that the horror will

not be repeated in the future.

Three decades of terror and counter-terror cannot have failed to leave, for some, an indelible imprint of sectarian hatred and intolerance that is willing to indiscriminately sacrifice even the lives of young children from their own side in order to communicate their hopeless message to anyone still willing to listen.

No words of condemnation or threats of retribution will bring about a strategic rethink by individuals for whom the explosive and the gun are still regarded as the only effective means of realising their political ambitions: Bill Jackson, West Bridgford, Nottingham.

BEFORE Omagh I could see the logic of Gerry Adams's argument that decommisioning of IRA arms should take place in the context of total demilitarisation. That argument holds no water now that we see splinter groups with access to the IRA armoury using it with devastating effect.

The IRA must now surrender its arms for Sinn Féin's commitment to the peace process to retain credibility. The nationalist movement has shot itself in the foot, but that was probably the intention — to politically desecrate Martin McGuinness and Adams.

Therefore it is not just the loyalists who need to exercise restraint — nationalists must reaffirm their commitment to the peace process. You are not committed if you can't control who has access to the Semtex in your backyard. Anthony Gummerson, London.

sonal beer writer and taster. I always carry a thermometer. This registered more than 30 degrees. When I spoke to the conductor about the heat, he explained that passengers were opening windows between the carriages and the resulting inflow of cool air triggered the train's thermostat, with the result that warm air was being pumped into the carriages.

I decamped to first class. The temperature there was 25 degrees, still too warm, but as there were fewer passengers (about a dozen), the heat was tolerable. My son revived after a cooling can of Virgin Cola.

If Richard Branson wishes to surcharge me for using first class, I look forward to hearing from him. In the meantime, if he needs hot air to fuel his balloon journeys, he has a constant supply available on his trains. Roger Protz, St Albans, Herts.

LAST Tuesday I travelled on the 10.35 Virgin train from London Euston to Glasgow. The temperature in a packed standard class rapidly became intolerable. My six-year-old son complained of feeling unwell. As a profes-



## Premature death knell for 'Eskimo'

WELCOME the position taken by the Oxford Dictionary (Phwoah — Oxford dictionary says to boldly split an infinitive will keep you on message, August 12) on the "split infinitive". It has been based on a fundamental, but rarely addressed, ambiguity regarding the identity of the infinitive — whether the infinitive consists of two parts, "to" plus a verb participle, or whether the "to" form of the verb is itself a modified form of the true infinitive.

If it were accepted that this single part stem were in fact the true infinitive, and hence the notion of a split infinitive illogical, we would bring greater clarity not only to many basic grammatical structures, but also to far more advanced linguistic strategies, where the careful placing of an

adverb can subtly, or indeed radically, change the meaning or nuance of a sentence. Sarah Mutholland, Nottingham.

CONGRATULATIONS to the OUP for attempting to "avoid a litany of politically incorrect words", but I'm afraid I have some bad news. A friend to the north of Canada attempted to address some of the locals as "Inuit". "We," one told him indignantly, "are Eskimos. All the Inuit are in Ottawa."

Similarly, a government attempt to refer to fishermen as "fishers" caused a furore on the east coast — it was pointed out that a fisher is a bird. When it comes to being politically correct, consult the people. Colin Lay, Edmonton, Alberta.

## Spot the Gaul

THE government survey vessel examining the wreck of the Hull trawler Gaul didn't really have to "find" the wreck off the Norwegian coast (Gaul search team to look for bodies, August 10). The Marnal 18 went straight to the spot given by Anglia TV to the Marine Accident Investigation Branch. We discovered the wreck a year ago while making the documentary Secrets Of The Gaul for Channel 4's Dispatches series. The GPS position we subsequently gave the MAB was so accurate their search area was less than 2 metres by 1 metre.

We also gave them our underwater footage of the Gaul. Those pictures were shown at a special screening for relatives before appearing on Channel 4 and TV and BBC news bulletins. Therefore I was surprised to hear BBC Radio 4 News say relatives on board the survey vessel were "seeing pictures of the wreck" — for the first time! Bob Ledwith, Executive producer, Anglia Television, London.

minister Parliament, perhaps a more accountable and cost effective system would be for MEPs to also sit in and report to their own parliaments. Valerie Vaz, Leicester.

THE European Parliament does have powers to scrutinise and veto legislation emanating from the Council, though it cannot initiate legislation. But the UK Parliament has no power to veto the actions of the UK government in the Council. Accordingly, British policy on areas within the EU remit is not subject to any democratic control.

Westminster could fill this gap, but so could British MEPs — creating a healthy dialogue between domestic and European politicians. Richard Wilkins, London.

## Rural counsel

THEY seem to have a strange idea of dairy farming down in Sussex (Letters, August 14). Many dairy cattle are not taken out of the field daily because of TB, the incidence is very low and where it does occur is often associated with the presence of badgers. All cattle are subject to periodic tests for TB. The stumpy grass which is the main part of their diet tends not to grow very well in winter.

If your correspondents ever venture as far north as Yorkshire they are welcome to visit my dairy farm and see what really happens. If not, I can give them the names and addresses of dairy farmers in the South-east who will be willing to educate them. Bill Bradley, Skipton, N Yorks.

OF course Mr Voute, executive director of the Countryside Alliance, is against "right to roam" and for "voluntary partnerships" on access (Letters, August 15) because he knows that such partnerships are only voluntary for landowners. Ramblers will get nothing except the derisory access the landowners are prepared to concede. Mr Voute wants his members to continue to have a veto on where people may walk on uncultivated land.

We know that only a new law, as set out in the government consultation paper, giving freedom to roam responsibly away from paths on mountain, moors and commons, will give people the access they want and need. Kate Ashbrook, Ramblers' Association, London.

Please include a postal address, even on e-mailed letters, and a daytime telephone number.

## If Branson needs hot air to fuel his balloons, he has a constant supply on his trains'

Roger Protz, Letters

## Oklahoma! is the price to keep National from nob and snobs

MICHAEL Billington, stung by an accusation of pompous idiot, has described a wholly unrepresentative moment in the life of the National Theatre as if it is the norm (Oh no, Not Oklahoma! August 12). He has also compared a year's work by our friends at the Almeida to a month of the output here. Clearly he is not concerned to be even-handed because he has an agenda.

The latest show he wants his readers not to see is Oklahoma! directed by Michael Billington because I wanted to; and because it is one of the signpost works of the last hundred years of theatre; and because a truly National Theatre must embrace tastes and disciplines of every kind.

No harm done... until we get to his decision that the National should have run up a £2 million deficit, doing a repertoire we cannot afford, to prove to the Government that we are seriously underfunded. This is exactly the discredited approach that has proved to be a recipe for disaster in the arts.

We all struggle to survive in the changed climate of frozen funding but unlike Billington, my colleagues and I have to live in the real world of budgets and balance sheets. By uttering such irresponsible slogans, he makes our difficult job very much harder. The plight of theatres in London in the summer months is a socio-

logical and statistical fact which we at the National have responded to creatively. We have given the public what we believe in and our houses are full. To suggest we should be losing £2 million instead is indeed both pompous and idiotic. Trevor Nunn, Director, Royal National Theatre, London.

WHAT'S wrong with packing 'em in, and making a few bob? That way, Trevor Nunn can then afford to revive some of those obscure, turgid eastern European tragedies (so beloved of Michael Billington).

I read Mr B's depressing piece after having enjoyed an exhilarating, vibrant performance of Oklahoma! Billington misses the point. A national theatre should cater for all tastes. And you've only got to look across the river at the Royal Opera House to see what can happen when the nob and snobs take over. Barry Jackett, Lymington, Hants.

It seems that Great Train robber Bruce Reynolds has not given up his thieving ways (Joe Orton told it like it was, August 15). While your theatre critic Michael Billington is away in Edinburgh, Bruce has nicked his job. Give it to him — he's good. Robin Corbett MP, House of Commons.

## Tarnish on the EU's 'gold-plated' democracy

ROBIN Cook's critique of the European Union (Full steam ahead, August 14) shows that one ministerial mind is still malleable.

His implicit endorsement of Paddy Ashdown's call for a European constitution, to give effect to the full hierarchy of subsidiarity at local, regional, national and EU levels, is timely. His hinted solutions are, however, bizarre. The worst of the bureaucracy that is alleged to result from EU over-centralisation is designed by Whitehall. UK farmers call this extensive elaboration "gold-plating". It is the Westminster Parliament which has the duty to scrutinise this process, at every stage. We cannot pass this buck to Strasbourg.

That is why our modernisation select committee has produced detailed proposals to strengthen MPs' powers to monitor progress through EU institutions, and to amend the national additions inserted by our own government. If our Parliament was permitted to do its job properly, half Mr Cook's complaints would dissolve.

Of course, such an approach would mean that ministers would have to take MPs into their confidence before crucial decision-making in the EU council.

If he really believes that "one possible role for national parliaments would be to provide scrutiny on the principle of subsidiarity", why is he, and the Cabinet, hesitating to

back the reforms our committee suggests? Paul Tyler MP, Liberal Democrat Chief Whip, House of Commons.

ROBIN Cook argues a nation state can no longer stand alone, to justify Britain's EU membership. The nation states that between them produce nearly half of the world's GDP (the US and Japan) do stand alone, as do the five nation states with the highest GDP per head (Luxembourg, Switzerland, Japan, Bermuda and Norway). Maritz van den Berg, London.

NATURALLY MEPs will object to proposals (Cook, curb on Europe, August 18) to

create an EU second chamber made up of MEPs from national parliaments, citing expense and duplication. The obvious answer is to remove the present first chamber, which is the European Parliament, and just have this second one.

It costs £1,600 per day to keep an MEP in Strasbourg. What in heaven's name do they do? An MEP is expensive enough, at £2,400 a day, but at least they open the occasional fete and can be seen shouting and booing in Parliament. Possibly best of all might be to transfer all the members to the Lords to Strasbourg — £280 a day — who can snore over as well as they can here. Michael Knowles, Congleton, Cheshire.

WHILST the European Parliament has not been around as long as the West-

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# The Guardian Sport

Monday August 17 1998 www.football.guardian.co.uk

**Premiership: the race is on**

Southampton 1 Liverpool 2

## Owen throws red hat into ring

David Lacey

**J**OINT management would appear to suit Liverpool, judging from yesterday's result at The Dell. Then again it was their fourth win at Southampton in five visits, more a case, perhaps, of horses for courses than two heads being better than one.

In fact from a practical point of view Liverpool owed their victory less to Gérard Houllier's appointment as an extra pair of hands to work with Roy Evans than Southampton's loss of a defender at a crucial moment late in the game.

In the 74th minute Jason Dodd, their captain and right-back, had been hurt helping

by the attacking inclinations on the right of Vegard Heggem, who increasingly turned Southampton's defence the longer the match progressed.

For a time early in the match it was tempting to believe that Liverpool's enduring problems at the back of the last few seasons were beginning to be solved. Jamie Carragher and Phil Babb dealt competently with Egil Ostenstad and Mark Hughes, but once Southampton began to achieve more pace and accuracy with their crosses some familiar doubts returned.

Nevertheless Liverpool did show more resilience and character. Heggem's presence on the right meant that McAteer played in central midfield, helping Ince to protect the back four.

**Match stats**

	Soton	Liv
Possession	46%	54%
Attempts on target	3	6
Attempts off target	8	7
Corners	6	4
Fouls	9	8
Offsides	1	3
Bookings	0	3
Sendings-off	0	0

to break up a Liverpool attack and went behind the goal to finish receiving treatment. In the meantime Liverpool won a throw-in on the left.

Dodd tried to re-enter the field before it was taken but was waved back by the referee, Paul Alcock, and remained a frustrated spectator as Paul Ince headed on Steve Staunton's long throw and Paul Jones could only palm it down for Michael Owen to score one of his simpler goals. The referee was correct but it was still a hard way for Southampton to lose, particularly as their defence had worked so assiduously to deny Owen scoring opportunities.

Although Liverpool generally passed the ball more imaginatively and at times looked like winning the game through their consistent width and attacking mobility, the amount Southampton put into the game should have earned them a point. They still have not won on the opening day since the 1988-89 season but on this occasion they did not really deserve to lose.

Liverpool's was a mixed performance. The arrival of Houllier has coincided with an even more positive approach, to judge from the initial line-up, which had Ince, Jason McAteer, Steve McManaman and Patrick Berger frequently pushing forward to support Owen and Karlheinz Riedle.

They also look stronger on the flanks now that Staunton has been brought back to Anfield after a seven-year absence. The threat of Staunton on the left was complemented

Southampton appeared to be at an early disadvantage when they lost John Bercosford from the left of their midfield after only seven minutes. He was replaced by Wayne Bridge, an 18-year-old local product who steadily combined with Scott Hiley to threaten Liverpool down that flank.

When Southampton took the lead in the 36th minute, however, the goal followed one of Ripley's crosses from the right. After taking a ricochet off Staunton the ball looped into the middle where Ostenstad's head glanced it down into the far corner of the net, touching Ince on the way.

The swiftness of Liverpool's response was encouraging for those who feel this may be Anfield's season to make a serious title challenge. Within two minutes McAteer had found Owen on the left and from the youngster's cross the timing of Riedle's leap left Richard Dryden earthbound as the German nodded the scores level.

Dave Jones had pointedly started the game with Matthew Le Tissier on the bench and afterwards the manager said he would be willing to listen to offers for the player. For more than an hour it appeared that Le Tissier's only contribution would be to keep goal during the substitutes' half-time kick-in. When he did replace Ostenstad for the last 23 minutes it was to little immediate effect, partly because he was pushed up alongside Hughes, which is hardly his natural role.

Nevertheless he might have saved the match for Southampton at the last when the Liverpool defence allowed a dropping ball to reach him in the penalty area only for him to drag his shot wide.

Liverpool's managers afterwards beamed twin smiles, with Evans stressing the importance of character and Houllier talking about the desire to win. In the past, with Liverpool, these were unspoken assumptions, but the team will have gained confidence from yesterday's win all the same.



Dance of the knights... the Liverpool captain Paul Ince congratulates his England team-mate Michael Owen after he scored the winning goal at The Dell. PHOTOGRAPH: GRAHAM CHADWICK

## A national hero turned saint

Vivek Chaudhary on a rapturous reception for Michael Owen

**H**E WAS last off the team bus and last on to the pitch. Perhaps even Michael Owen wanted to savour the country's adulation. As an England colleague of his knows only too well, in football it takes only seconds to fall from national hero to national villain.

The fans had been waiting outside the players' entrance two hours before kick-off to catch a glimpse of the boy wonder, and for the lucky ones there was a chance of an autograph.

Teenage girls, children and dads jostled for position. Southampton and Liverpool fans rubbed shoulders. For a few hours team loyalty played second

fiddle to a greater cause: cheering a national hero.

"It's great to have him here, a real honour," said Julian Mears, a Saints season-ticket holder. "It doesn't matter what team you support, he belongs to the country."

It is a strange sight in English football, a player cheered by opposing fans. They greeted even his goal with gentle applause. For the moment, Owen can do no wrong.

Even when he lost the ball or clattered into a Southampton player there was none of the usual barracking. "England, England," a group in the corner had cried as he emerged from the tunnel. The crowd only had eyes for him. Auto-

graph books were thrust under his nose, others waved Owen posters.

Everybody wanted a piece of him and the chance to say they had seen him make his return to domestic football as a world superstar. "He's more than a footballer now. He is like a pop star, but he's just a lot nicer with it," said another Southampton fan, Joanna Burridge, 17.

The success and pride of English football rests on Owen's slender shoulders in a season that could be dominated by foreign signings. This is not just small-minded football chauvinism; football everywhere needs a home-grown hero.

And the lad from Cheshire did not let anyone down. All

four sides of the ground cheered him on but he seemed oblivious to his debut as a fully paid-up member of the superstars club. He harried defenders and was as focused as ever.

Early in the second half a small section of the Southampton crowd got their reward. Owen came crashing into them as he chased the ball, and they patted and stroked him, delirious that they had managed to touch their hero. The same fans virtually ignored the Southampton man who tumbled into them with Owen.

At the final whistle it had been business as usual for Owen. He set up one goal and scored another. The Liverpool fans cheered and the Southampton fans applauded him off the pitch and Michael Owen went home a hero. Again.

### Michael Owen The Dell boy

Goals	1
Goals inside box	0
Goals outside box	0
Penalties	0
Goal attempts	0
Shots on target (no goals)	2
Shots off target	0
Hit woodwork	0
Blocked shot outside 6 yards	0
Missed penalty	0
Passes	0
Successful pass in opposition half	20
Successful pass in penalty area	2
Unsuccessful passes in own half	3
Tackles	0
Tackles in possession won	0
Tackles possession lost	0
Fouls	0
Free kicks won	1
Free kicks conceded	1
Penalty conceded	0
Caught offside	1
Yellow card	0
Red card	0



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## First Division

Birmingham 3  
Crystal Palace 1

### Palace lie low under Adebola fire

Peter White

FERRY VENABLES needed a reminder of the difficulties he faces in getting Crystal Palace back in the Premiership at the first attempt, they were set before him and almost 17,000 spectators at St Andrews yesterday.

Although Attilio Lombardo, Sasa Curcic and the impressive teenager Hayden Mullins ventured forward at every opportunity, Birmingham were quick to expose defensive frailties with smart counter-attacks set up in the main by the precision passing from deep of the full-back Simon Charlton.

As a result Birmingham secured not only three points but the three goals required to move them to the top of the table. If they can continue to reproduce this type of form, then they must have a far better chance than Palace of playing a leading role in the promotion battle.

In these days of inflated transfer fees it is not surprising that the Birmingham manager Trevor Francis believes he got a bargain when he signed Dede Adebola from Crewe for \$1 million last February. Francis has already intimated that the striker will not be sold, whatever offers are tabled.

Adebola confirmed Francis's faith in him, scoring an early goal, then exploiting the space left by Palace's advancing midfielders to keep the visitors' defence at full stretch. "He is an awesome player and very important to us," Francis said. "He caused us trouble and is capable of giving defenders problems at a higher level than this."

Adebola, having to cope without his fellow striker Paul Furlong (hamstring), seized the initiative with an opportunistic goal after 12 minutes, moving unmarked to the edge of the six-yard area to convert Charlton's low, hard cross from the left.

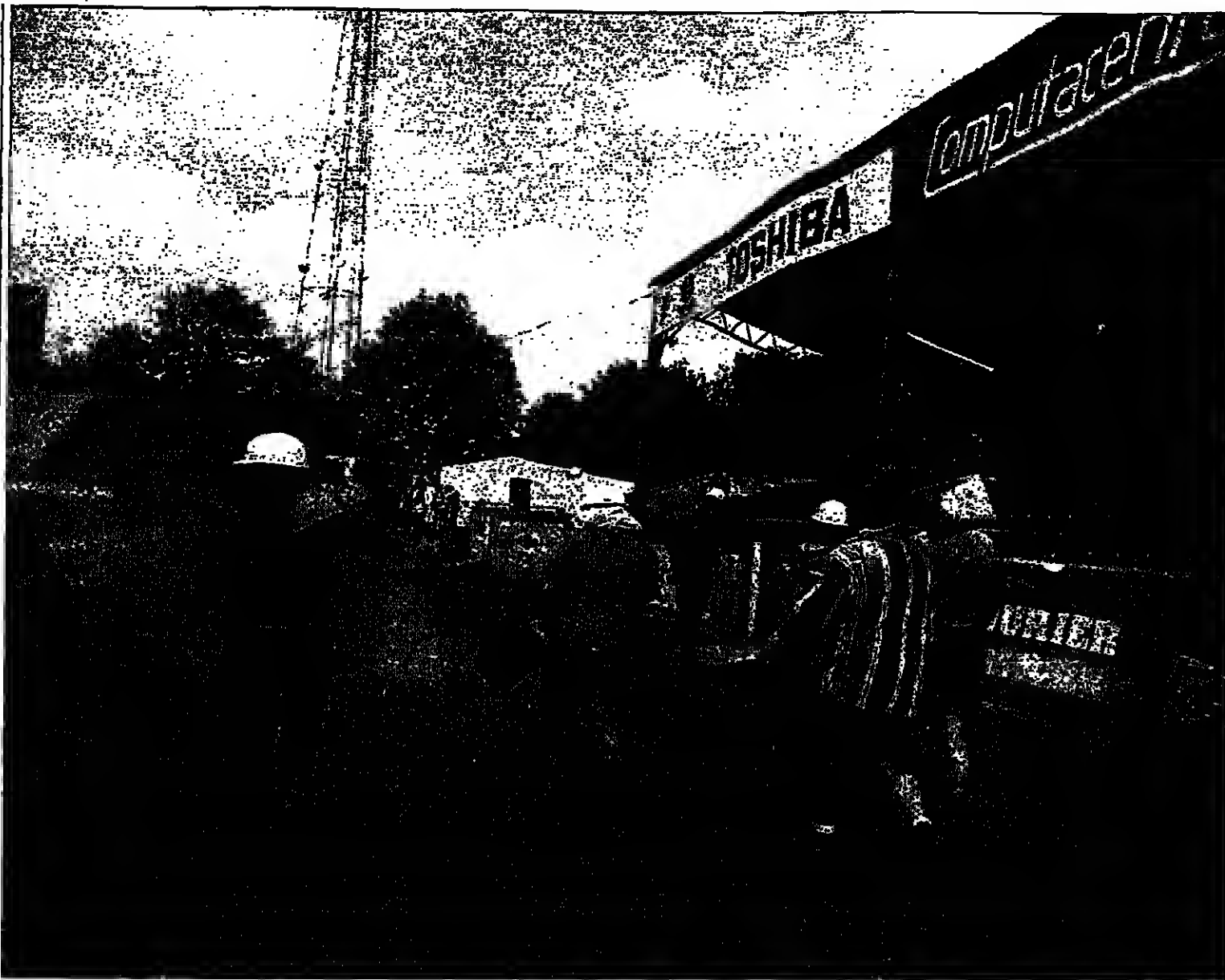
Within 16 minutes they had doubled their advantage. This time Charlton's run into the area was baited as Mark Edwards pulled Trevor Cook and Martin O'Connor shouldered the responsibility of beating the Palace goalkeeper Kevin Miller from the spot.

It was a decision which angered Venable. "It was harsh and the turning point of the game," he claimed. "If that was a penalty, then we should have had one early in the second half when Michael Johnson committed the same offence on Bruce Dyer. It is those type of inconsistencies which I find so annoying."

Mullins, the former Palace youth team captain, capitalised on some indecision between the Birmingham keeper Ian Bennett and the defender Johnson to reduce the deficit after 72 minutes. But the home side restored their two-goal advantage in injury-time when Martin Grainger provided the pass for his fellow substitute Nicky Forster to score from close range.

Venable, who is on the verge of signing as many as five players, added: "Conceding two early goals was a blow and this is something we have got to work on. But it is all about bedding down the side. It is still early days."

There is no doubting that Venable has inherited some players of individual skill but it would appear that the Palace manager faces a daunting task in finding the blend that will enable his side to figure prominently in the First Division promotion race. He awaits international clearance on an Israeli, an Australian and two Chinese players.



Shaky foundations? ... workmen pack up their equipment and leave the ground just before kick-off yesterday

PHOTOGRAPH BY MATT GORE

## Third Division: Halifax Town 1 Brentford 0

### Halifax back and enjoying the high life

Jeremy Alexander finds a team thriving on the pitch after a five-year absence but threatened by behind-the-scenes turmoil

AT THE time of going to press Halifax are on their third chairman of the summer, their second in a week. They are also on their second manager in a fortnight and have a player-coach not recognised by the management, present or previous. No wonder the programme bills a "crowd doctor". For the moment they are a club built on soap (dramatic personnel to follow). As Trevor Brookling might say: "I mean, it could go either way."

In fact it has gone like a dream. Halifax, back in the Football League after a five-year absence, won at Peterborough on the opening day, then at Wrexham in the Worthington Cup, and now extended the run by beating Brentford, the bookmakers' favourites, who entered the division from the other end. Kieran O'Regan, Saturday's manager, has "no idea what's happening" but said perkily, "Keep up the strife and let us play."

He is still getting used to player-manager, having

switched from player-coach, George Mulhall, who took the club up from the Conference, was due to become director of football at the end of this season but was shifted four days before his start. Chris Holland, from Scunthorpe, was chairman then but he stepped down last week, re-admitting Jim Brown, who held the office when they went down and has remained influential.

And this is where the Butler comes in. Without management consultation Peter Butler came on a free transfer from West Brom in the summer with the promise of a player-coach role. Brown and Butler's sister are what David Mellor calls "an item". So far, with a tactical injury, Butler has neither played nor coached.

Similarly Holland, with a tactical misunderstanding, played it straight in the programme slot "Boardroom Rauter". Equally wisely the man in charge of car-park slots has given up altogether: four were wrongly labelled. It is so

much easier at Brentford. Ron Nades did his best to fill all his roles. He watched the first half from the stand, seeing Geoff Horsfield, top scorer in the Conference with 34 goals last season, stab in from a corner to maintain his record of a goal a game. And for the second he propped himself against the dug-out as his team chased the game with crosses from Paul Watson, which Halifax attacked with far more purpose than Brentford.

Jon Brown, forced into service as a sweeper, was outstanding. There was a spirit and sureness about Halifax despite depletions which forced them to take three midfielders at short notice on one-month contracts. They will soon be known, after the push up the road, as the Three Pigeons. Richard Lucas, from Hartlepool, has been taken on permanently. Horsfield, Dave Hanson, Kevin Holme and Andy Thackray all might have enlarged Halifax's lead.

Afterwards Nades spoke like a manager, except that, contrary to tradition, he did not defend his team. "Injuries? Only to the head." Every man needs a scapegoat. If only the Nadeshow reflected his patent leather shoes.



Magical Shayman ... Geoff Horsfield celebrates his goal

## First Division: Watford 1 Bradford 0

### Taylor's video freebie turns Watford on

Jon Brodwin

GRAHAM TAYLOR will probably never restore his battered reputation outside Watford. Witness the Bolton fan who was fined \$50 and banned from football grounds for three months for throwing a turnip at his feet during his time at Wolves.

But if unfounded doubts persist about his managerial prowess, this match proved beyond doubt that Taylor knows a good video when he sees one.

It was on the strength of video highlights that he brought the Zaire international Michel Ndonge to Watford from Trabzonspor of Turkey on a free this summer.

Communication was difficult at first — "The English I learn in lessons is very different from that in the dressing room" — the Belgian-born striker noted — but the teething problems are over. Ndonge scored the only goal on his debut on Saturday to remind Bradford that the best things in life are often free.

Bradford's manager Paul

Jewell has been spending money like a man auditioning for a remake of *Brewster's Millions*. But all to little effect. This was their second league defeat, and their record signings, Lee Mills and Isaiah Rankin, finished on the bench. At \$2.3 million they cost three times as much as Watford's team.

Watford's chairman Elton John is not a man known to fret about his overdraft, but the artist formerly known as Reginald Dwight hopes to keep his cheque-book closed. He is an infrequent visitor

to Vicarage Road these days, having said Goodbye English Roads for a US tour. But his music is still played over the Tannoy, hinting at a desire for a promotion of sorts.

Not that Taylor is glancing enviously at Jewell's riches. "How can I encourage parents to bring their boys here if all we do spend money we haven't got?" he said. "I'm quite happy building the way we are. If and when we get into the Premiership our foundations will be much stronger because we'll have people who care for the club."

Rankin was so desperate to show he cared after his move from Arsenal on Thursday that he suffered cramp in training and wasted two good chances after hitting the post.

Ngonge, 31, showed him the way. Tony Daley — yes, that one — picked out Micah Hyde and Ngonge met his cross with a flying header which squeezed over the line. "Either side could have won if you were looking at it from an impartial view," Taylor conceded. "But I'm not and I'm bloody pleased." Did Paul Jewell not like that?

## Scottish Premier League

Aberdeen 3 Celtic 2

### Celtic pay penalty for missed chances

Patrick Glenn

CELTIC'S players found a whole new way of embarrassing themselves in public last night, managing to lose a match they should have won comfortably.

Mostly on top in outfield play, they missed two penalty kicks — one by Simon Donnelly, the other by Craig Burley — scored an own-goal through Reg Binkler and had Darren Jackson sent off when retaliation incurred his second yellow card 10 minutes from the end.

David Rowson, the young Aberdeen midfielder, was red-carded three minutes later for a crude challenge on Jackie McNamara. It seemed hardly credible that the visitors could be awarded a third penalty, but they were, in the fourth minute of stoppage time, when John Inglis fouled Enrico Annoni. This time Henrik Larsson drove the ball powerfully past Jim Leighton.

Celtic under Josef Venglos play a more attacking game but there are times when that leads merely to showing how good they are at passing up good scoring chances.

They should, for example, have established a telling lead by the interval, after a first half in which they were not only dominant but created two golden opportunities. Instead they fell behind to an extraordinary goal from Mark Perry during one of the home side's few forward thrusts.

Donnelly had been replaced by Harald Brattbakk by the time Paul Lambert was brought down by Derek Whyte, and this time Burley allowed Leighton to save the kick with a dive to his left. Larsson made sure of the third penalty but by then Celtic had run out of time.

Aberdeen: Leighton, Anderson, Inglis, Whyte, Smith, Kitchell, Rowson, Hignett, Perry, Dods, Jess.

Celtic: Gould, McNamara, Bepko, Elliot, Scott, Donnelly, Barry, Larsson, Binkler, Jackson, Larsson.

Referee: W Young (Glasgow).

## Scottish round-up

### Albertz plea as fans blow cold

RANGERS' first victory, on their second outing of the campaign, may have been met by a wave of joy, but it was riding on an undercurrent of unease, writes Patrick Glenn.

When Jorg Albertz converted a last-minute penalty to secure a 2-1 win over Motherwell at Ibrox, even the most triumphant supporters in the game could barely disguise their lack of conviction.

They had seen Dick Advocaat's side spend most of the time inside the visitors' half without demonstrating the wit to overcome Motherwell's redoubtable defending in numbers. It was not what had been expected of a team who has cost £23 million to overhaul since the Dutchman arrived.

Albertz seemed to have sensed the fans' shifting of feet when he spoke afterwards. "They will have to be a little patient with us," said the German midfielder. "It takes some time for new players to come together and it's obvious that we need a few more games."

"It's not possible to say how long it will take and realise the supporters want success all the time. But so far they have shown understanding." Patience may not survive many more similar performances, even if there was little argument over Rangers' superiority. Expectations rose in the 15th minute, when the campaign may have brought a lead that seemed certain to be extended.

The lack of penetration thereafter revealed Rangers' lack of a genuine predator in the box. Gabriel Amato, the Argentinean from Real Madrid, seems nothing like as deadly as his predecessor Ally McCoist.

With Owen Coyle equalising early in the second half, Rangers required Kai Nyssens' aberration in handling the ball from a corner kick — to take the points.

Dundee, newly promoted, are having a bad start, losing 2-0 at Dunfermline to goals from Andy Smith and George Shaw after a 3-0 opening-day defeat by Aberdeen. McCoist made his debut for his new club Kilmarnock at St Johnstone, but only as a substitute in the final three minutes of a scoreless draw.

Hearts yesterday managed a 0-0 draw at Dundee United, who had Steve Thompson sent off for a foul in the second half. "Coming here to Tannadice is always one of the toughest away games and it was predictable that there would be few chances," said Jim Jefferies, the Hearts manager. "I thought Neil McCann should have scored at the end and I thought Steve Fulton was magnificent."

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## Nationwide League

### First Division

ALTHOUGH Barnsley have spent all but one season outside the top flight, they are not making a spectacular fist of this term's return to familiar territory. Saturday's 3-1 defeat at Crewe being particularly hard to take for the player-manager John Hendrie.

The Scot, two matches in charge and still winless, laid into his defence after an afternoon which had seen Barnsley chasing the game from the fifth minute, in a penalty. Sean McClave brought them back on terms after the interval but two goals from Chris Lightfoot gave the Alex their first league win of the season. "We would have had to

score three goals to win last week and four to win today. What good is that?" said Hendrie. "The players are in the real world now, they are grown men and they've got to lift themselves."

Bolton's Colin Todd was also in critical mood despite seeing his team win 2-0 against newly promoted Grimsby at the Reehok, where second-half goals from Nathan Blake and Dean Holdsworth, with a penalty, secured the points.

"I was very disappointed," said the manager, who kept his players back for an hour after the game. "We got the win but I expected better."

Sunderland shared the spoils with Swindon, for whom Iffy Onora scored after four minutes. "We are fortunate that football matches last 90 minutes and not 45," said the manager Peter Reid after

Kevin Phillips had curled a right-foot shot into the far corner on the hour.

Oxford slipped 2-0 at home to Wolves, out of the top flight since May 1985 but now second in the fledgling table. Steve Bull scored a disputed goal in first-half injury-time, when the home goalkeeper dropped a cross under pressure from the striker, and Simon Osborn added a second 10 minutes from time.

"It was the sort of goal that gets disallowed sometimes but I think Steve Bull had his arms well down," said the Wolves manager Mark McGhee, who added that his much-sought midfielder Robbie Keane is "categorically not for sale".

Norwich won 2-0 at Stockport and go third, their goals being scored by Craig Bellamy and their former player Colin Woodthorpe, who put through his own goal.

### Second Division

READING's manager Wotommy Burns has banned alcohol, junk food, mobile phones and dissent after their 4-1 away defeat by Bristol Rovers.

"I don't like to see the players chatting away on a mobile phone and ignoring their team-mates when travelling to matches. That's a time for the players to be bonding together as a team and they can't do that if they are having private conversations."

"They are also banned from drinking alcohol when on club business, or eating junk food," he said. "We have installed a microwave on the team bus to cook pasta for them. They know it is for the good of their health."

Martin Williams, after only seven minutes, Barry Hayles, Jamie Cureton and Jason Roberts scored for Rovers, Michael Meaker replying.

Last season's relegated side Stoke City had lost to newly promoted Macclesfield 3-1 last week in the Worthington Cup but they retaliated by winning 2-0 at the Britannia Stadium.

The City manager Brian Little had all four of his summer signings in the starting line-up and the former Bohemian Wanderers full-back Brian Small and former Sheffield United defender Chris Short were key factors in their first home game of the season. Dean Crowe and Tony Thorne scored in the first half to put the game out of reach of Macclesfield and send the Potteries side to the top of the table.

Colchester United had not won at the Racecourse Ground since October 1997 but their

4-2 win over Wrexham pushed them into second place in the table above Fulham, the title favourites, and Bournemouth.

Ian Rush again failed to find the target for Wrexham as the visitors scored two goals in each half, David Gregory completing the scoring with a 64th-minute penalty.

Bournemouth maintained their 100 per cent start to the season, coming from behind to defeat the Third Division champions Notts County at Meadow Lane.

They conceded the first goal to a controversial penalty decision against the former West Ham player Mohammed Berthe for handling the ball inside the area. Three Bournemouth players, including Berthe, were booked for dissent, but he replied by equalising in the 51st minute and 12 minutes later Steven Robinson scored the winner.

### Third Division

ROTHERHAM made it two wins out of two and went to the top of the table on goals scored thanks to a 4-1 win at Leyton Orient, a game that left Tommy Taylor lamenting "the most disappointing performance" since he took the manager's job at Brisbane Road.

Goals from Darren Garner and Lee Glover before half-time and Jamie Ingledow and Andy Roscoe after it saw the Millers home. Orient's Dean Smith, who had missed a penalty five minutes before the interval, gave the home side a glimpse of a chance when he made it 2-1 after 64 minutes.

"Rotherham in effect had five chances and scored four goals," Taylor said.

Southend, somewhat fortuitously, took all three points with a 2-1 home win against Shrewsbury and moved into second place.

They took the lead through Adrian Clarke after seven minutes but Austin Berkey equalised before half-time. David Whyte missed a penalty for Southend early in the second half but Shrewsbury went on to hit the bar twice and were beginning to look the likely winners until Alex Burns struck from the edge of the box in the dying seconds. "We did not play well and were fortunate in win," admitted Alvin Martin, Southend's manager.

Cambridge continued to show good form, a 2-1 win against Swansea taking them into fourth place, just behind Halifax. Martin Butler got both goals for United after Ryan Casey had given the visitors a sixth-minute lead.



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The Guardian Monday August 17 1998

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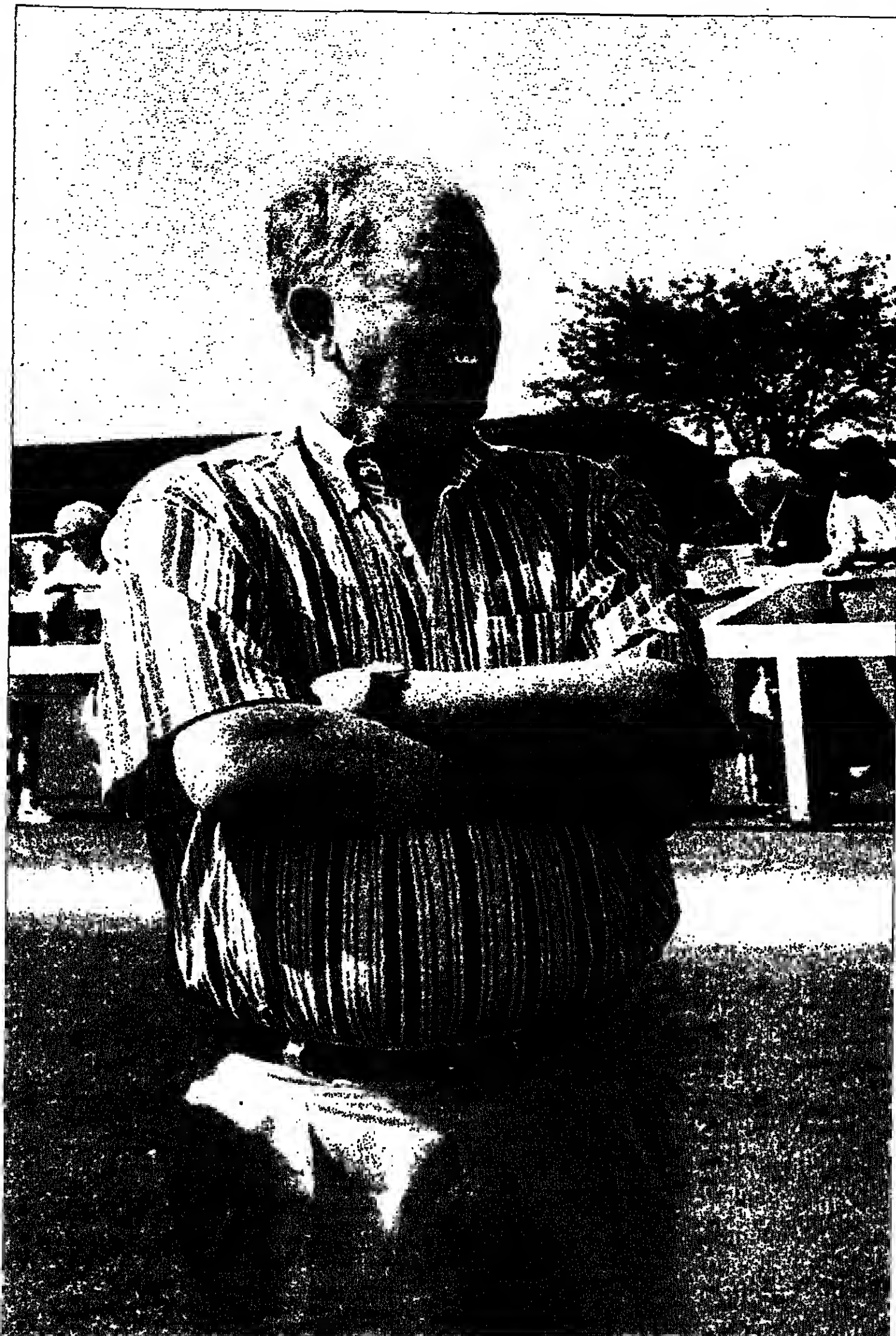
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# Striking afresh on the Flat

**Jamie Reid** meets Mick Channon, former England footballer now in pursuit of new goals as a trainer

New game, new goals... Mick Channon, once of Southampton, now the Lambourn trainer, at Bath last week with his runner Danegold and rider Allan Eddery. Below: Celebrating League Cup victory in 1985

PHOTOGRAPHS: JEFF MORGAN, TOMMY HINDLEY, BOB THOMAS

**F**LAT racing can be a snooty business. Some trainers still react to even the simplest inquiry about their running plans as if an eminent heart surgeon had been asked to reveal the innermost secrets of his operating technique. Mick Channon does not play those sort of games.

The distinguished footballer, once of England and Southampton, is one of a few sportsmen to have reached the top in two separate careers. And he has brought to the more pompous enclaves of the turf the same kind of down-to-earth humour and directness that characterised his time on the pitch and as a football television pundit.

"Racing belongs to the people," he says with feeling. "A lot of things have changed in the last 10 years and it's right for racing to change too. The public want to be more involved, they want to know more about the horses. Trainers can't keep up that old cloak-and-dagger stuff any more. And, as long as the credibility is there and we're doing what's right by the horses, I think that's the way it ought to be."

Channon's credibility is beyond dispute. There was a time 10 years ago when one or two of the well-stuffed "Thomas Pink" shirts who frequent Newmarket Heath might have been tempted to laugh up their tailored sleeves at the celebrity trainer. They are not laughing now.

Channon admits he started out with "a staff of three and about the same number of horses". But there are now more than 100 inmates at his Kingsdown Stables in Upper Lambourn. He has trained three Royal Ascot winners and amassed more than £300,000 worth of win and place prize-money this season.

"We began by trying to make our name with speedy two-year-olds," he says. "But you're always looking to move up. Once you've won a listed race you want to win a Group race. And now I'd love to win

one of them £100,000 bonus races. And then a Classic.

"What's the point of horse racing if there are no fairy tales? If you're not good you'll fall back and deserve to. But you're always looking for the chance to progress. When I was a school kid I wanted to play for Southampton. Then, when I found I had a bit of talent, I wanted to play for England. Nothing's changed."

Channon's success at scaling the commanding heights of British racing can be measured from the fact that the Maktoum family have designed to use his talents. Sheikh Mohammed's younger brother Sheikh Ahmed Al Maktoum has six horses in training at Kingsdown. The best has been the brilliantly fast filly Blunt Alayl who scorched home in the Queen

Mary Stakes at Royal Ascot in June. This daughter of Green Desert may reappear in the Lowther Stakes at York on Thursday (the meeting starts tomorrow) although she has an alternative engagement in the Prix Morny at Deauville 10 days later.

Sheikh Ahmed also owns the colt Joss Algharoud, "potentially a proper racehorse" according to Channon and on course for a crack at the Gimcrack Stakes on Wednesday. Does Channon feel any extra pressure at training for the Arabs? "No," he replies bluntly. "They just rang me up out of the blue last year and said they were going to send me some yearlings. They haven't been down but their man, Anthony Stood, has been. I treat them just the same way I treat any other owner."

Yet there must be an uncomfortable thought in the back of Channon's mind that, if he does too well with the Maktoums' investments, they are quite likely to be whisked off to Dubai during the winter and brought back into training under the Godolphin banner next spring.

Channon smiles. "The only thing wrong with this game," he says, "is the competition. You've got to have the horses. So when you get good horses you just try and kick on and win with them. You'd be pretty daft not to."

Channon may be a naturalist, too, and does not just sit back and wait for the big-match days. During the high summer months the racing fixture list resembles a congested railway timetable. There seem to be trains, big and small, arriving and departing every afternoon and evening throughout the week. Channon's horses stop at every station.

Last Tuesday the main destination was Bath, the cheerfully third division track high on Lansdowne Hill some two-and-a-half miles outside the

city. And beyond the white painted running rails down the back straight the view was of newly harvested cornfields, rolling hills and a clear blue sky.

Channon was in his element. Disdaining the traditional panama or brown trilby hat he was to be found in the modest Owners' and Trainers' bar, watching his runners up at Ayr on the television and enjoying the company of a group of friends and patrons known as the Piccolo Boys. These mainly Bristolian hustlers owned the sprinter Piccolo, which Channon prepared to win the King's Stand Stakes at Ascot in 1985.

"That was one of the best days of my life," says the trainer. "The owners are all a bunch of boogymen. They kept pouring alcohol down my throat all night. They had to prise my mouth open to do it, of course. I don't know how I'll ever forgive them."

Channon's enthusiasm for the pungent flavour of a small West Country track like Bath is every bit as genuine as any excitement he may be feeling about the potential rewards to the owners at Deauville and York.

"British racing has got the best atmosphere anywhere in the world," he believes.

"And that's not just down to the horses or the owners, trainers and jockeys. It's due to everyone from the bloke who drives the horse transporter to the men and women behind the bars and the race-course bookies. But what you see when you get to the course, that's the Big Show. An awful lot of people have worked their huts off to produce that."

Channon's own working day begins at half-past-five on summer mornings. "It's been great up there on the Downs these last few weeks. A little bit cool and misty first thing but grand to be alive."

Channon pushes himself and his staff hard. He will be flying up to York every day in the helicopter of his friend and fellow trainer Richard Hannon. But he will be back in the yard each evening. His language can be famously colourful and he does not

spare his stable lads or girls nor his jockeys if he thinks they are making "a complete bollocks" of their tasks.

He may be a good if tough motivator of people but where does he get the skill and inspiration to train nervous thoroughbred horses to run and run fast? "There are no secrets really," he insists. "It's just hard bloody work. But just what's worth doing in life that doesn't involve hard work? Fitness is important obviously. But I approach training in the same way I'd try to get a team fit to play football. The more you ask, the more you get."

And does Channon see any training potential among the current ranks of Premiership stars? That really makes him laugh. "They're getting too much bloody money. They're not going to swap that racket for horse racing."

There were one or two nervous looking trainers at Bath, men whose faces betrayed careers hovering perilously close to racing's equivalent of the relegation zone. Channon was not one of them. He did not get a winner at the meeting but he did have a 4-1 success at Ayr and tipped it too. The Piccolo Boys filled their boots. As usual Mick Channon was enjoying himself.



## One career to another

**From Football to Horse Racing**  
 Mick Channon, former England footballer, has become a successful horse trainer. He has trained three Royal Ascot winners and amassed more than £300,000 worth of win and place prize-money this season.

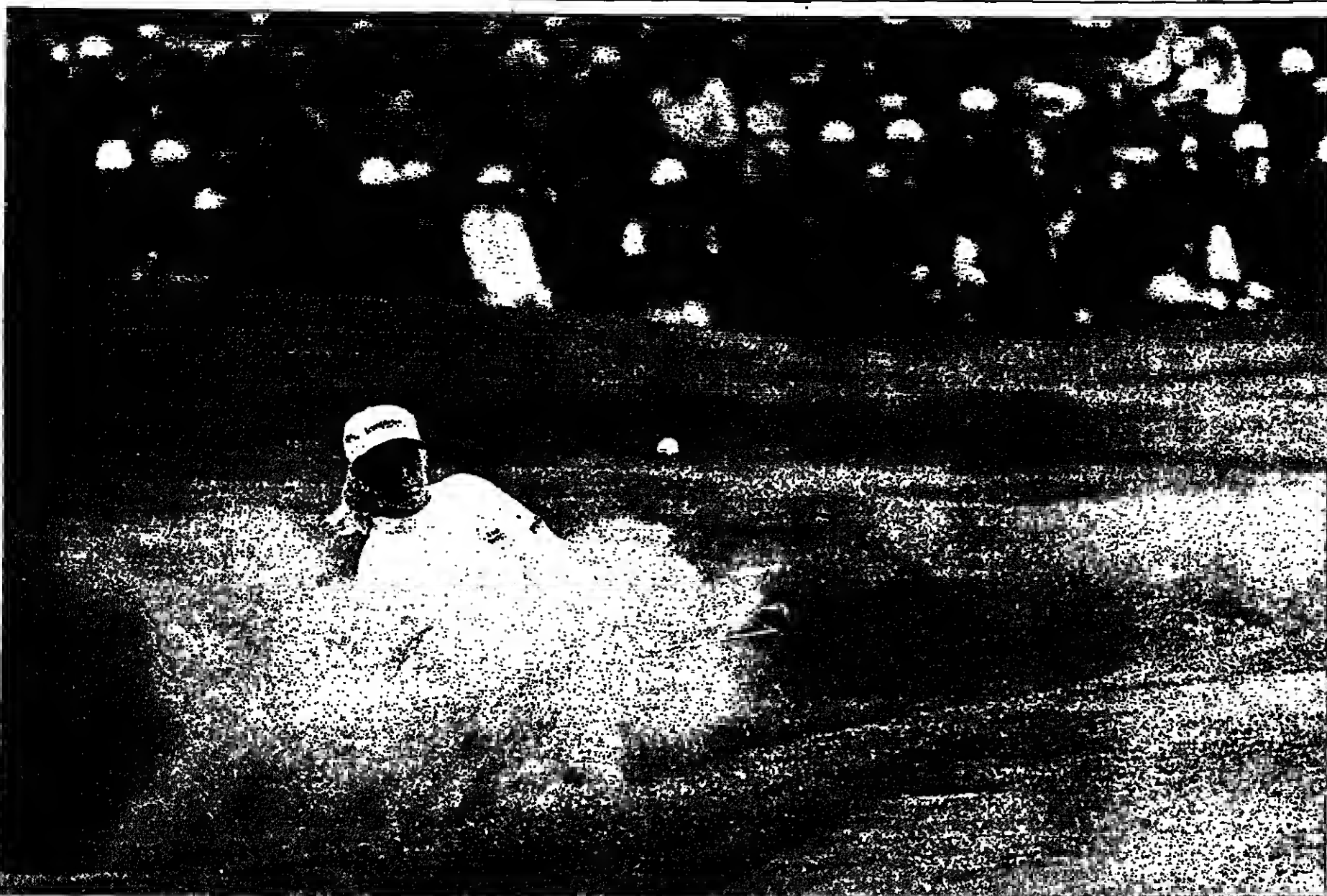


**Training**  
 First license 1990 (assistant to John Baker and Ken Cunniff-Brown)  
 Number of horses: 100, jumpers 4  
 Best horses trained: Piccolo, 1985, Great Dane, 1986, Flying Squad, 1987, Major races won: Nunthorpe Stakes, Group 1 (Piccolo, York, 1994), King's Stand Stakes (Piccolo, Ascot, 1985), Wolf and Chandon Stakes, Group 2 (Micheal, Baden, Baden, 1995), Van Gleet Criterion Stakes (Micheal, Newmarket, 1988), Queen Mary Stakes, Group 3 (Blunt Alayl, Ascot, 1998), Ferret Stakes Sandown









Breaking out... Janice Moodie blasts from a bunker on the 18th hole at Royal Lytham on her way to fourth place in the British Open

PHOTOGRAPH BY BARRY GREENWOOD

## Montgomerie in major dismay

Mike Selvey in Seattle sees the leading Britons reduced to bit parts as the USPGA Championship comes to its denouement

MAKE a graph of Colin Montgomerie's mood swings and it would resemble an Alpine stage of the Tour de France. Here is a fellow who more than almost any other top player wears his heart firmly on his sleeve. When he plays well, he is perky as a parrot. But when it goes wrong, he is as grumpy as a parrot. And he is not shy about letting everyone know.

It went wrong on Saturday. Still without the major championship that his talent demands, but in second place after two rounds, he chopped and hacked his way to a third-round 77, 10 shots poorer than his second round and only a couple of strokes from being the worst of the day.

It dropped him to 35th place, saying goodbye to his chances for another year in the process. "What can I say?" he said afterwards with

a shrug, and the answer, of course, is very little.

Montgomerie's disaster left him at four over par for the championship, meaning an early start, and in pouring rain at that. Things were not much better on the front nine yesterday either, as he dropped four more shots, three of them in the first four holes, to be out in 39. He retrieved shots at the 10th and par-five 11th before bogeying the 14th.

Nick Faldo was grinding his way happily on to a 73. He is in a peculiar mood at the present, declaring himself delighted with his week's work although his only birdies came at the 10th in the first round and the fourth in the second: 50 holes without a birdie and still he is happy.

"Eureka," he had declared as he left the course on Friday. "I'm chuffed. I really think I've hit on something."

It would be easy to think he had just discovered penicillin. Instead it is his putting stroke that he believes has started to return to its former glory. "Unchaining myself from putting is helping my whole game," he said.

But neither they, nor Andrew Coltart, 74 yesterday, were the leading Britons after three rounds. That honour — remarkably given his lack of preparation — went to Ian Woosnam, who made the cut only by virtue of a birdie on the final second-round hole and had not bogeyed two of the final three holes on Saturday, would have claimed a course-record 65 and still been in with an outside chance of the title.

The real tournament had barely started, however. If the PGA Championship has a history of producing first-time winners of major titles — 12 of the last 13 in fact, a se-

quence broken only by Nick Price in 1994 — then an American, Steve Stricker, and a Filipino, Vijay Singh, began their final rounds at noon yesterday as firm favourites to lift the Wanamaker Trophy.

Stricker's bogey-free round of 66 on Saturday and one of 67 from Singh made them joint leaders at seven under par. Singh, the tour's most famous player, has long been regarded as a potential winner and so had Stricker in 1996, when he finished fourth in the money list. But he



Woosnam... leading Briton

plummeted 126 places last year and, to top it, made his regular caddy pregnant — although, as it was his wife, he can be forgiven.

Stricker is something of a farm horse, having come into the championship on the back of four top-10 finishes in his last five events.

Singh and Stricker were four shots ahead of the defending champion Davis Love III, looking to become the first player in 61 years to win this title back-to-back. Steve Kirkington, who won the title three years ago, and Billy Mayfair, who is in contention thanks to a second successive 67 on Saturday, one shot further back, though, lurked a group of four players including Tiger Woods, by no means at his best, and Mark O'Meara, winner of both the Masters and the Open already this year.

None of these players, nor indeed anyone who began the day under par — and that includes Greg Kraft who did break the course record set by Woods on the first day with a

round of 65 on Saturday — could be discounted. Yet, despite Phil Mickelson getting birdies on three of the last four holes yesterday, it seemed that if anyone was to catch the front runners, they would have to do so before this ferocious finish to an excruciatingly difficult course.

The 18th, in particular, converted from a par-five to a 495-yard par-four uphill with a left-hand dog-leg and the one that will be used as the first extra hole should it be required, has become the most difficult hole on the course, with only 13 birdies in three rounds and as many bogeys or worse as pars.

Warren Bennett, 25, from Watford won the Russian Open, his fifth Challenge Tour title of the year and his fourth in six weeks. Chris Williams, born in Liverpool but who moved to South Africa when he was four, won the Malaysian Masters at the fourth play-off hole in Kuala Lumpur yesterday, when his 20-foot putt was enough to beat Zaw Moe.

### Golf

## Blues for Moodie as unknown wins crown

David Davies sees great British hope let down by putting at Lytham St Annes

SHERRI Steinhauer took 31 shots in the opening round of the Women's British Open here on Thursday, and for three days had a totally anonymous tournament.

Yesterday, though, this largely unknown American made up for that with a 12-shot improvement on her first effort, and her three-under-par 69, for a four-over-par total of 292, made her one of the more surprising winners.

It was a day when Sherri proved to be rather more potent than Brandie Burton, the better-known American who shared the runners-up spot with Sophie Gustafson of Sweden, both of them being one behind Steinhauer, while the overnight leader and great hope of British golf, Janice Moodie, had the blues on the greens.

Six times from inside seven feet Moodie missed important putts, the first three being crucial to the overall result. At the 3rd and 4th, six-footers slid past on the left to squander her lead, and at the 6th, over-correcting, she pushed one of the same length an inch right of the hole.

That last one was the key. Had it gone in, it might have restored her confidence with the putter; instead she remained tentative throughout on the greens and lost a tournament in which she probably played more good shots through the green than any other competitor.

It is said, probably accurately, that it is necessary to lose a championship before you can win one, and although this week's event is not a major in American eyes it is probably the one the Europeans want to win most. If Moodie reacts positively to her final 75 she should certainly go on to win "proper" majors.

She confessed to having been nervous at the start of the day. "My legs were like jelly on the first tee," she said. But these were the nerves of anticipation, not trepidation, and "by the

time we'd got to the 2nd I was pretty strong".

The Glasgow woman has been a professional for only 12 months — this was her first pro event last year — and has only once since then been among the leaders going out for the final round.

"I'm still learning," she said. "If you'd offered me fourth place in the British Open before the tournament started I'd have grabbed your hand off. But that changed, of course, before the final round."

Fourth, though, is what she had to settle for, after more missed putts on the back nine. The worst of these was from only two feet at the 14th.

The course was set up by the Ladies' Golf Union secretary Julie Hall, who, as Joanne Morley said after a 77, is "half the Christmas card list" of many of the players. It was only marginally easier than it is for a men's Open, and this year's great growing conditions meant that the rough was probably too tough.

But of course if you do not go in it there are no problems, and Steinhauer played some remarkably consistent golf. She had arrived in Lytham the Sunday before the tournament and spent that day walking the course, picking out targets at which to aim.

It did not work on the first day because everything was obliterated by the foul weather, but her three remaining rounds were played in five under par.

She confessed afterwards that she briefly lost the faith. "After that 81," she said, "I dreamed that I was at the travel agent arranging my flights home. But when I woke up, I didn't go." Instead she rearranged her ambitions, to concentrate on making the cut, and when she had done that to try to get into the top 10.

She won the tournament with a birdie at the last. A fine drive left her with 156 yards to go in a strong crosswind and she elected to use a six-iron, pitching the ball well short of the pin and running it up. She succeeded brilliantly, the ball trickling to seven feet short of the hole. The putt was weakly struck but just reached the rim of the hole and fell in.

### Rugby League

Super League: Wigan 44 Sheffield 6

## Paul puts Eagles to flight

Andy Wilson

IN THE build-up to Sheffield's stunning victory over Wigan in the Challenge Cup final in May the Eagles' coach John Kear conceded that the thoroughbreds of the British game would probably beat his team of better times nine times out of 10.

Sheffield played much better yesterday than they had done in a 36-6 defeat at the Don Valley stadium seven days after Wembley but were still comfortably second best. Two down, seven to go.

The Eagles actually led 6-0 through a Darren Turner try until the game turned on two contrasting incidents midway through the first half. First Darren Shaw, their Australian forward, was sin-binned for holding down in a tackle. Paul Broadbent, the Sheffield captain, had just been warned for a similar offence but the decision still seemed terribly harsh.

Within two minutes Wigan were level after one of the best individual tries of the season from Henry Paul, who swivelled through the first

line of defence and stepped inside the cover.

The gifted New Zealander has not always seen eye to eye with the Wigan coach John Monie this season but Greg Florino, the Australian who has been signed to replace him next year, will have a mighty tough act to follow.

Shaw was still in the sin-bin, and Paul involved again, when Wigan went ahead four minutes later. But this time Sheffield had only themselves to blame as Waisale Sotavalu, their Fijian full-back who was otherwise impressive, failed to catch a high Andy Farrell kick. From the resulting pressure Paul and Gary Connolly handled clinically for Kris Radlinski to score.

Any thoughts of a second-half Sheffield fight-back were crushed by a third Wigan try within seven minutes of the restart, when Lee Gilmour made the break for Farrell to score. Danny Moore added a fourth after a searing break from Connolly and wonderful support play from Paul Johnson and Tony Smith, and there were further touchdowns for Steve Holgate.

Simon Haughton and a second for Paul.

But by then the result had long been decided, and the fans were more concerned with the inflatable sheep which amused them throughout the afternoon.

"The second half was as good as we've played all year," said Monie afterwards. "Henry Paul was outstanding, both as a team No. 6 as well as the individual brilliance that we know he has."

The defeat leaves Sheffield three points adrift of the fifth play-off position but Kear agreed with Monie's observation that, if they do miss out, it will be the points they dropped in the immediate aftermath of Wembley which prove crucial.

"We are disappointed because in the second half we weren't competitive," Kear said. "We lost it 32-0 and we were lucky to get null."

Wigan: Radlinski; Bell, Connolly, Moore, Robinson; Paul, Smith, O'Connor, McCann, Johnson, Cassidy, Haughton, Farrell, Radlinski; P. Johnson, Gilmour, Holgate, Clark.

Sheffield: Sotavalu; Shaw, Morgan, Senior, Sedge Watson, Astor, Broadbent, Turner, Loughton, Carr, Shaw, Doyle, Sotavalu; Livers, Vasilakopoulos, Radlinski, Gannon (16 Haines).

## Gregory on carpet over unpaid fine

Andy Wilson

ANDY GREGORY is again in trouble with the game's authorities. The Salford coach has been summoned to Rugby Football League headquarters on August 25 for failing to pay a £1,000 fine imposed for abusing a referee this season.

He may also have to explain a fresh case of alleged abusive language at last Sunday's 40-6 defeat at home to Leeds in the light of the referee Karl Kirkpatrick's report to the referees' controller, Geoff Berry, that he was abused by Gregory as he left the pitch at half-time.

Gregory was suspended from the touchline for the rest of this season after he was found guilty of abusing the referee Steve Gannon during Salford's home defeat by Sheffield in May.

Yesterday Salford managed to scrape a 16-12 win at the bottom club Huddersfield. The result left the former St Helens scrum-half

Bohnie Goulding fuming when the final whistle was blown with Adrian Belle having played the ball in an attacking position five metres out.

Goulding, making his Huddersfield debut, hurled the ball to the ground at the decision as the Giants argued that the ball was already in play and the match should have continued until the next stoppage. Instead Salford celebrated only their second win in 12 matches with the help of two tries from Scott Naylor.

Goulding said: "I thought he'd played the ball but the referee blew up and we've just got to get on with it. I had the ball in my hands and, though we had about a six-man overlap, I wasn't going to pass it and I could've strolled in."

Graeme Bradley, Bradford's 34-year-old Australian captain, has announced that he is to retire at the end of the season. Castleford have signed Aaron Raper, the younger brother of their coach Stuart, for the 1999 season.

### Rugby Union

Tri-Nations Championship: South Africa 24 New Zealand 23

## Dalton's sting in the tail

Andy Colquhoun in Durban

NEW ZEALAND's rugby gloom deepened on Saturday when they surrendered an 18-point lead to lose to South Africa, their fourth defeat in succession and their worst run since they lost six consecutive Tests in 1995.

The All Blacks fully deserved their 23-6 lead going into the final quarter and there seemed little chance of a last-minute Springbok side escaping their fate.

But a typical darting break and try by the scrum-half Joost van der Westhuizen in the 68th minute, and a further try by the replacement flanker Bobby Skinstad four minutes later, closed the gap to four points as the previously ruthless All Black defence went to sleep.

With the match in stoppage time, the Springboks opted to kick a penalty to the corner and from the resulting line-out the hooker James Dalton was carried over by his pack for the winning try.

The New Zealand coach John Hart remained upbeat

in defeat. "My faith in the All Blacks has never wavered. I'm proud to be associated with them," he said. "Our performance tonight proved we are a great side. We went out to attack the Springbok scrum and I thought we outscored them consistently."

"When our No. 8 Istaitia Maka was taken out of the game it was a huge blow to us. We lost a lot of presence. We are hugely disappointed but we have made a lot of progress from a few weeks ago."

Gary Teichmann, the Springbok captain, said: "It was a pretty big effort from us to win. It was sparked off by Joost's try. We needed someone to take the initiative. We played superb rugby in the last 15 minutes and it showed the character of the side."

The wing Stefan Terblanche had barged through the tackle of the full-back Christian Cullen for his seventh try in eight internationals to put South Africa 5-0 ahead in the third minute. However, a 40-metre break by Jonah Lomu set up the first All Black try for the scrum-half Justin Marshall before Maka powered through weak tackling to leave the way

clear for the No. 8 and captain Taine Randell's ninth Test try.

Andrew Mahtens converted the two tries and also kicked three penalties on either side of half-time against a Springbok side diminished by indecision and mistakes. Yet South Africa finally came good for their 13th successive victory whereas New Zealand will try to overcome their barren patch against Australia in a fortnight's time.

South Africa lead the Tri-Nations table by three points from Australia, who can still claim the title if they win the final match of the series against the Springboks in Johannesburg on Saturday.


SCORERS: South Africa: Tries: Terblanche, Van der Westhuizen, Skinstad, Cullen. Conversion: Mahtens. 2. New Zealand: Tries: Marshall, Randall. Conversion: Mahtens. 2. Penalties: Mahtens. 3.

SOUTH AFRICA: Mahtens; Terblanche, Skinstad, Cullen, Van der Westhuizen, Krumpholtz, Dalton, Garvey (Le Roux, 23), Ojo (Skinstad, 64), Andrew (20, 71), Erasmus (Allan, 64), Venter, Tolchard (66).

NEW ZEALAND: Cullen; Wilson, Carter (Barryman, 23), Mahtens, Lomu, Mahtens, Marshall, Post, Oliver, Brown, Villa, Brooke, Randall (capt), Koroheke, Mahtens (20).

Referee: P. Marshall (Australia).

— Reader



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# PARTING SHOT

Best foot forward... Our Dickson's hooves are painted and presented by Katherine Bradley from Jersey in preparation for the Junior and Young Riders European Dressage Championships at Hickstead. The competition begins on Wednesday and finishes next Sunday

Photograph: Martin Godwin



## Where was the BBC's Mr Viagra?

**SCREEN BREAK**  
Martin Kelner

THE opening weekend of the Premiership season, so eagerly anticipated when you have been starved of soccer for what seems like, oh, days, was blighted for me by that serialisation in a down-market tabloid, and the subsequent accusations of treachery at the highest level of English football.

I refer of course to the publication in the Daily Mail of extracts from Jimmy Hill's autobiography in which he reveals that he cheated on his second wife with not one but two entirely different and separate women. That's three women in all, count them.

No one to my knowledge has yet called for Hill's resignation — although football's Mr Viagra was missing from the opening line-up on Sunday's Match of the Day — but the steamy revelations do help to explain some of the

## The Huddle Must Go season kicked off in earnest on Sky's entertaining Hold The Back Page

Craven Cottage Casanova's more left-of-field views over the years.

When your brain is busy thinking of two sets of alibis it is perfectly natural, I should imagine, for your eye to stray off the ball as regards the Liverpool back four. I expect, though, that when the Premiership of the Professional Footballers' Association crawled into one of his three beds at four in the morning the woman in question would have found perfectly plausible his explanation that the BBC had just found a new time-slot for Match of the Day.

Glenn Hoddle, on the other hand, may find it difficult to explain his behaviour when he appears before an outraged press at the launch of his book this week.

The story so far, for those who have watched none of the soccer programmes this weekend nor listened to any phone-ins, is that Hoddle, in his World Cup memoirs, has given chapter and verse on his rows with players and has laid into some of his fellow managers. No wonder, the press are outraged. That's our job.

It is not just the indiscretion of Hoddle's diaries which

has got in among us, though, but the fact that the England coach has taken between £100,000 and £250,000 from the Sun for some of the juicier passages.

On the first day of the season we want to sit shirt-sleeved and untroubled in the August sunshine, not confront the ugly verminality at the heart of our national game. We know money talks in football but now, to paraphrase that great philosopher Mr Neil Diamond, it has started to sing and dance.

Both Mark Lawrenson and Dave Bassett on Football Focus thought Hoddle had gone beyond the pale in selling extracts from his story. The players, said Lawrenson, were furious to see Hoddle using their private details to line his pockets in this way. I mean, some of them have to work a month or more to make that kind of money.

Nor was it a surprise, said Bassett, that his fellow managers had raised an eyebrow at Hoddle's behaviour, with the ethics of the book being questioned by, among others, such pillars of rectitude as Terry Venables.

Whereas Football Focus was content to do no more than look askance at Hoddle's dealings, the Hoddle Must Go season, not due to start officially until after England slip the launch of the issues of the European Championship next month, kicked off in earnest on Sky's entertaining Hold The Back Page, on which Brian Woolnough of the Sun and three guest journeymen took the heat out of the issues of the day.

Rob Shepherd of the Express said Hoddle should be turfed out of his job over his argument being that memoirs were a kind of pension for England coaches. "If Hoddle wants the pension he should get out of the job," spluttered Shepherd.

Hold The Back Page is a nice, easy, Shepherd played the angry young man while the more fatherly Steve Curry of the Sunday Telegraph gradually became more irritated with him, before telling the young pup he was talking rubbish and to take his alibis off the table.

It was a shame, though, that reality had to intrude on the first weekend of the Premiership, after Sky had done such a good job of selling the romance of the competition.

The promo featuring Mick Hucknall is particularly clever, and had the effect of sweeping me out to Hillsborough on Saturday on a wave of emotion when I could have been at home watching Some Like It Hot.

Finally, your help please. After Friday night's Fulham match, Kevin Keegan appeared to describe his new signing Dirk Lehmann as "game as a pebble". I have always thought the correct usage was "game as a pebble", so I should be interested to know whether it was just a slip of the tongue by Keegan or a new and exciting simile not covered in my bound copies of Towards More Colourful Speech.

## Weekend results

### RUGBY UNION

TWO-NATIONS TOURNAMENT	
South Africa	24 New Zealand
TWO-NATIONS TOURNAMENT	
Leinster	33 Munster
TWO-NATIONS TOURNAMENT	
Ulster	13 Munster
TWO-NATIONS TOURNAMENT	
Connacht	13 Munster
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### RUGBY LEAGUE

SUPER LEAGUE	
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Connacht	13 Munster

### RUGBY LEAGUE

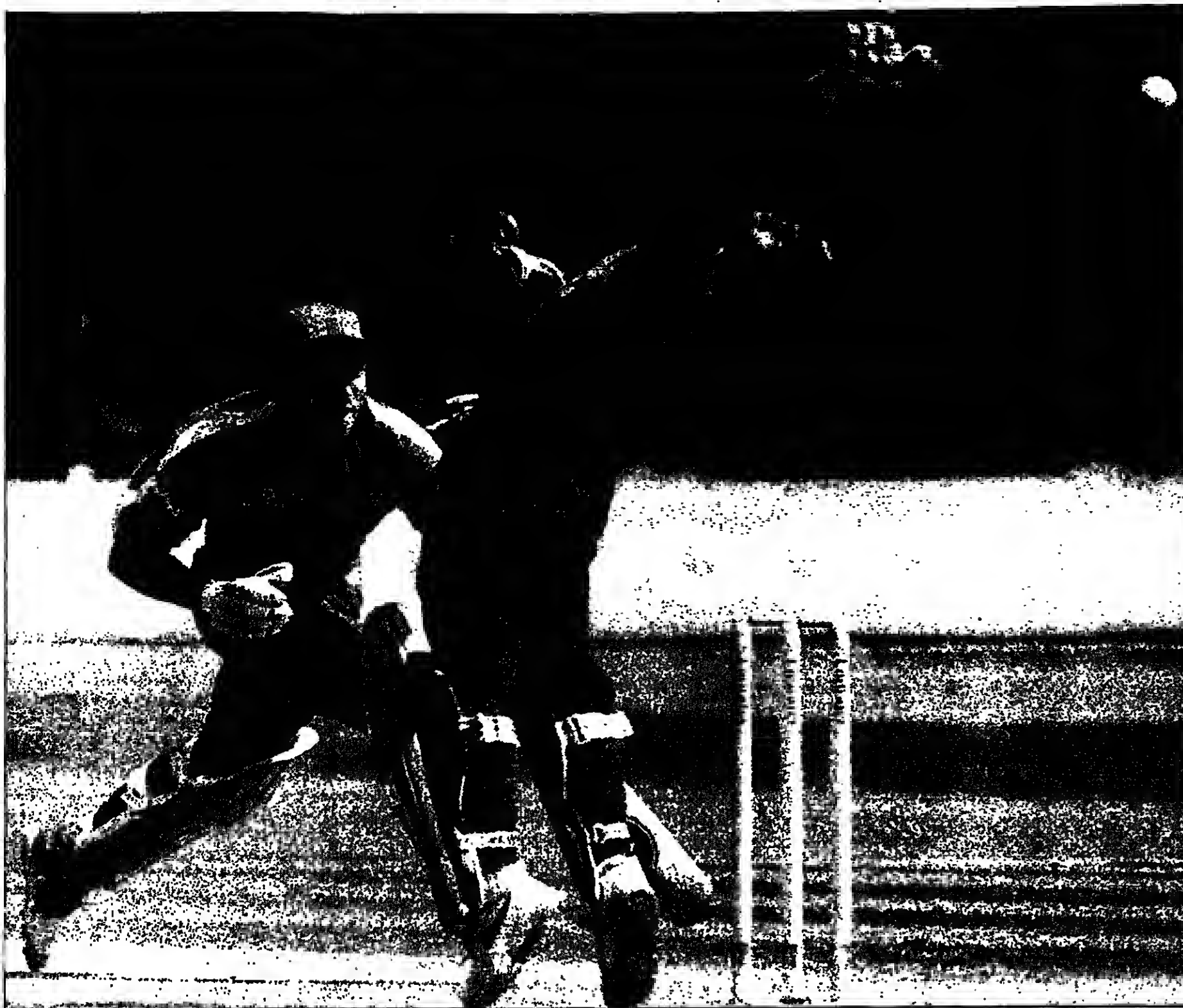
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Connacht	13 Munster

## ACADEMY: Championships

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## Triangular Tournament: England v Sri Lanka



In creases... Nasser Hussain makes his ground as Romesh Kaluwitharana attempts to get a hand to a top edge from the Essex batsman

PHOTOGRAPH BY TOM JENNINGS

David Hopps at Lord's sees England beat Sri Lanka with plenty to spare

## Hick gets into festive spirit

ENGLAND performed yesterday like a team liberated. Freed from the tension of their victorious Test series against South Africa and freed, no less, from a long-held reputation as losers, they made such unforced work of Sri Lanka that it was possible to imagine them as World Cup winners.

A premature judgment, undoubtedly — with the World Cup in Britain only nine months away, England's one-day side remain inconsistent both in terms of results and personnel — but their 36-run defeat of the defending champions in the triangular tournament showed an upbeat mood worthy of preservation.

The South Africa series, compelling as it became, was one of unrelenting and exhausting tension. Yesterday was a time for festa. The sun shone upon a capacity Lord's crowd and England relished the chance to play brisk and attacking cricket.

Victory against South Africa at Edgbaston tomorrow would assure them of a Lord's rematch against Sri Lanka in Thursday's final. Were England to lose, each country

would have won one game and the finalists would be decided on net run-rates.

Such a relaxed mood was ideal for Graeme Hick, who temporarily subdued his apprehension at an England career once again on the line. Hick had not made a one-day international 50 in his last 11 innings, and his presence in Australia this winter has been in doubt, but yesterday he was utterly convincing, his 88 from 97 balls, including a six off Kumar Dharmasena into the top of the new grandstand, providing the bedrock of England's 247.

The openers Ally Brown and Nick Knight had both fallen to Pramodya Wickramasinghe, but Alex Stewart, rousing England to Test success, cracked a vigorous half-century before he was bowled attempting an ambitious leg-side assault upon Sanath Jayasuriya's left-arm spin.

However, impressively Hick pushed on, it was an innings which proved nothing. He might have been the attraction at a London garden party, revelling in the lilt and supportive feel of a summer Sunday.

Twice he might have fallen prey to the offspin of Muthiah Muralitharan, surviving a testing return chance on 33 and also on 77 when Jayasuriya fumbled at short fine-leg. That apart, his certainty had encouraged England expectations of 250, which disintegrated in the final seven overs, their last seven wickets falling for 24 runs.

Nasser Hussain's own high jinks had included a straight six off Dharmasena which dropped into the camera safety net in front of the pavilion balcony. But when Dharmasena defeated his sweep shot, Jayasuriya and Suresh Perera, a lithe, young fast bowler who has made a sound impression on his first tour, took full advantage.

Hick ran himself out riskily a single to Marvan Atapattu at short fine-leg, Adam Hoggie survived only four balls before Jayasuriya bowled him, and Robert Croft's sally down the pitch at Perera ended with a catch at the wicket.

Ian Austin and Peter Mar-

tin then cooked up a Lancashire hotpot which ended with the run-out of Martin at the non-striker's end as the wicketkeeper, Romesh Kaluwitharana, scampered to recover Austin's attempted sweep.

Discovering Austin making an England debut in an age when players are expected to be aware of the distinction between aerobic and anaerobic exercise is to discover a world turned on its head. Tomorrow all supermodels will be hefty and all gymnasiums replaced by cake shops. Austin made eight in 12 balls, a little indigestibly, and was then bowled by Jayasuriya, jabbing at a quicker ball.

A target of 248 did not sound out of range but Martin and Darren Gough swung and seamed the new ball more than might have been anticipated.

Sri Lanka lost three wickets for 28 in the fifth over, and not because of any pinch-hitting excess, each batsman in turn pushing defensively.

When Russell Arnold played on in Alan Mullally's first over, the onus once again rested with the two old stagers, Aravinda De Silva and Arjuna Ranatunga.

Ranatunga had suggested there was "no problem" with his homespun bat sponsorship which at Trent Bridge on Friday had advertised "Sam's Chicken and Ribs". Yesterday, after discussions between the match referee and the Sri Lankan management, it simply read Sam's, but if the captain begins to pile on the weight again it might be possible to hazard a guess at the source of his extra calories.

De Silva briefly left Martin speechless by his habit of pulling deliveries that Jayasuriya, for example, would consider carving off the front foot over the off side, but Austin won a marginal leg-before decision to claim a prized first international wicket.

Sri Lanka had abandoned all hope of victory long before Croft bowled Ranatunga off a bottom edge. The match finished to mirrorth cheers as Muralitharan slashed Gough's shoulder-high full toss over cover for six, but the captain was not smiling.

"We bowled badly, fielded terribly, and our batting wasn't up to standard," he said. One trusts that Sam hadn't also burned the chicken.

## Lord's scoreboard

ENGLAND	SRI LANKA
1 Ally Brown 17	1 M Muralitharan 11
2 Nick Knight 17	2 S Perera 11
3 Alex Stewart 18	3 A Ranatunga 11
4 Graeme Hick 88	4 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
5 Nasser Hussain 33	5 Aravinda De Silva 11
6 Ian Austin 8	6 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
7 Peter Marshall 11	7 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
8 Darren Gough 11	8 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
9 Romesh Kaluwitharana 11	9 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
10 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	10 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
11 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	11 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
12 Kumar Dharmasena 11	12 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
13 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	13 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
14 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	14 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
15 Kumar Dharmasena 11	15 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
16 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	16 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
17 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	17 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
18 Kumar Dharmasena 11	18 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
19 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	19 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
20 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	20 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
21 Kumar Dharmasena 11	21 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
22 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	22 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
23 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	23 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
24 Kumar Dharmasena 11	24 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
25 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	25 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
26 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	26 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
27 Kumar Dharmasena 11	27 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
28 Muthiah Muralitharan 11	28 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
29 Sanath Jayasuriya 11	29 Arjuna Ranatunga 11
30 Kumar Dharmasena 11	30 Arjuna Ranatunga 11

## Austin runs reliably to give family saloon its day on the polished dais

Paul Weaver watches Lancashire's one-time grave-digger bury Sri Lanka's hopes by taking the final wicket on his England debut

THE selection of Ian Austin ahead of Chris Lewis for yesterday's one-day international reflected the pervasiveness of a man who potters around the Motor Show at Birmingham's Exhibition Centre, stroking the smooth, exotic lines of some torquey Italian number, before going round the corner to pick up a second-hand family runaround from Honest Joe's lock-up, complete with dodgy MoT.

Lewis is the most athletic and naturally gifted all-rounder in the country and if he were a car he would probably be driven by Jeremy Clarkson; even Austin's name suggests an old banger, something you might buy after a nasty letter from the bank manager but only after walking around it a few times, shrugging towards the salesman and kicking the tyres with scepticism.

The trouble with flashy Italian egomobiles, however, is that although they look good in the drive and pull the birds, they can let you down on frosty mornings, and Lewis has coughed and spluttered to a halt often enough to suggest that he might have arrived from Turin via Arthur Daley.

"I feel I am reliable and I rarely break down," says Austin, expounding the timeless verities of British Leyland. He missed only one game last season, after colliding with Richard Green.

Unlike the downwardly mobile Lewis, you will not see the quietly popular Austin modelling, almost nude, in the pages of *Women's*. With his round figure the Campaign for Real Ale is the only organisation likely to offer him a modelling contract.

In fact it is difficult to think of a less fashionable cricketer. He used to spend his winters digging graves and driving vans, though more recently, along with a

number of other Lancashire players, he has tried his larynx and anecdotes at after-dinner speaking. Essentially he is an honest pro with a little bit extra: a football fanatic who discovered he had a natural ability for the game. He first played for Lancashire in 1986 but only in recent seasons has he established a regular place in the championship side.

At 32, and with his county benefit due the season after next, he was beginning to feel that international recognition would not extend beyond appearing for an England XI in the Cricket Max tournament in New Zealand last year.

He has hardly been pulling up any stumps this season, but he has been discussed before in the context of one-day international cricket and the happy news arrived at Headingly on Saturday morning. He was bowling against Yorkshire when Dav Whatmore, the

Lancashire coach, ran out with the message that he had been selected to replace the injured Mark Ealham in the England squad.

He did not let himself down yesterday but neither was his performance the stuff of Man of the Match awards. He came in at 228 for six in the middle of a collapse that saw England lose their last seven wickets for 34 runs in 35 balls — even in this brash form of cricket, with its white ball, pyjamas and fielding circles, some traditions must be faithfully observed.

He scored eight runs from a dozen deliveries, almost ran himself out and presided over the demise of his county colleague Peter Martin in similar circumstances.

When he came on to bowl the 14th over, at 54 for four, he conceded five runs from his first six balls and nine from his second over. But then he had Aravinda De Silva lbw and finished the match by bowling Muthiah Muralitharan. The old family saloon had had its day on the polished showroom dais.

## Schumacher pulls out all the stops with Ferrari

Alan Henry in Budapest sees the German slip the McLarens on refuelling strategy

MICHAEL Schumacher's fifth victory of the season owed as much to quick thinking by the Ferrari team as to quick driving by the German hero on a twisty circuit where the lack of overtaking opportunities meant making the most of a clever refuelling strategy.

Ferrari correctly judged, after the race had started, that a three-stop strategy running on the harder of Goodyear's two available tyre compounds would be the quickest route to complete the gruelling 77-lap race. This proved accurate and, when Schumacher emerged from his third pit visit five seconds ahead of David Coulthard's McLaren, Mercedes, cruised to victory ahead of the Scot.

"It was very much a race run at qualifying speed throughout for me," said Schumacher, whose team did not make the decision to change from a two-stop strategy until he had refuelled for the first time on lap 25. "We employed a three-stop strategy, which was pretty difficult, and it didn't seem to be working out at the beginning, as I fell behind Jacques Villeneuve at the first pit stop."

Ross Brawn [the Ferrari technical director] took the decision and told me what the strategy was after that first stop. But, as I was sitting behind Jacques, I was wondering whether it was the right thing to do.

"When Jacques went into the pits I got stuck behind David. Then, after my second stop, Ross told me over the radio that I had 19 laps to pick up 25 seconds to make enough time for my third stop. I said, 'Thank you, I will obviously try my best.' And it turned out to be enough."

This was precisely the strategy Schumacher and Brawn had used to win this race for the Benetton-Ford team in 1994, when they defeated Damon Hill's Williams. Schumacher's only slip came when he slid on to the grass at the last corner on lap 52 but he recovered with such aplomb that the excursion barely registered on the timing screens.

Coulthard, who had run second in the opening stages, was clearly disappointed that he had not been able to get on terms with Schumacher after his McLaren team-mate Mika Hakkinen faded with hand-

ling problems. "Based on our tests last week in Jerez we were confident that the tyre we were to use in qualifying would be quick in the race," he said. "But we seemed to hit a bit of a brick wall in terms of performance."

Schumacher's win narrowed Hakkinen's world championship points lead from 16 to seven with four races left and 40 points to race for. This dramatic reversal in fortunes came as the Finn was poised to take the title beyond the reach of his German rival.

Hakkinen qualified superbly on pole for the eighth time this season but dire handling problems blunted his pace midway through the race, leaving Coulthard to take up the chase of Schumacher.

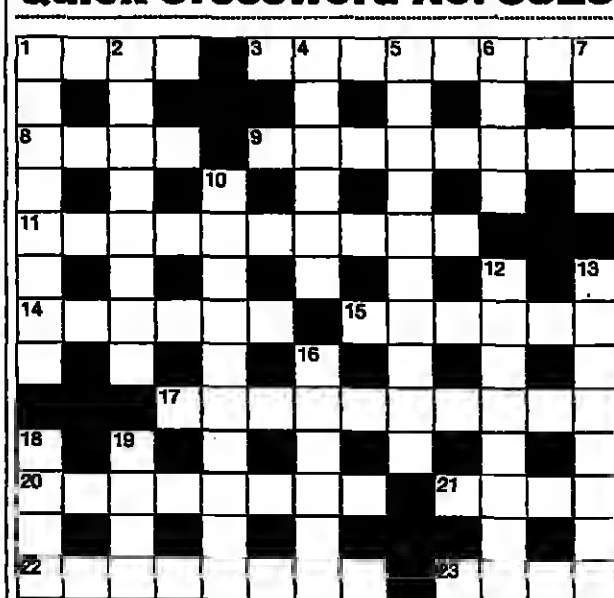
Subsequent examination of Hakkinen's McLaren indicated that the problem was probably a broken shock absorber in the front suspension, rendering the car virtually undriveable as he slipped back to sixth place behind Villeneuve, Hill's Jordan-Mugen-Romds and the Williams of Heinz-Harald Frentzen, who had been suffering from gastric flu for much of the weekend.

Hill was delighted to have finished fourth in his second consecutive grand prix. "If we keep this up we will eventually end up on the podium," he said. "It would have been fantastic to have kept Villeneuve behind me but there was little I could do — every time I pulled away he caught up with me until eventually he passed."

That was a rather better performance than his team-mate Ralf Schumacher, who dropped three places from 10th on the grid after running wide on the first corner. He took a long time to work through to an eventual ninth place, proving scrupulous at getting out of the way of faster cars. He will be hoping his recent run of better results will continue to sustain interest from both Williams and British American Racing, who have shown interest in securing him for next season.

McLaren's managing director Ron Dennis said at the weekend that he believed Ferrari's car was now fully legal. This followed weeks of controversy in which, without making an official protest, he questioned the legality of the car's braking system.

## Quick Crossword No. 8828

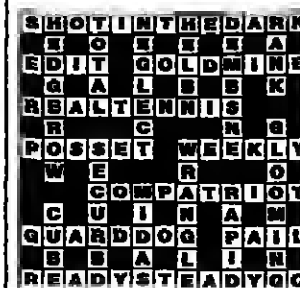


## Across

- Source of rope — or pot (4)
- Missile of criticism (6)
- Stick — or sugar? (4)
- Hypothetical set of events (8)
- They try to drag out secrets (4,6)
- Start again (6)
- Heavy and tasteless (5)
- Fitted (carpet) (4-2-4)
- Very cold (8)
- Culinary or medicinal plant (4)
- In the open air (6)
- Attempt (with dagger) (4)

## Down

- Poor stuff done to order (4-4)
- Totally stupid (6)
- Collection of facts — (the best) (6)
- (Antenatal) idea (10)
- Tedious person (4)
- Implement (4)
- Primate (10)



Solution No. 8827

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Thirsty work... Atherton plays his part in England's win

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